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FINANCIAL TIMES

No. 25,537

Saturday August 21 1971

** 6p

Temporary controlled float for pound

BY SAMUEL BRITTON

THE POUND sterling is to float around \$2.47, compared with a previous upper intervention point of \$2.42. There will be an operational lower limit of \$2.38 below which the rate will not be allowed to drop. But this lower limit is designed to reassure sterling's holders. It has been introduced as a matter of tactics rather than policy and could be changed at the Bank of England's discretion. The Bank of England will intervene at its discretion in the foreign exchange market and a variety of different national policies in operation with some countries still fixing their rates against the dollar, some floating, others widening their margins and yet others adopting a two-tier system.

Some governments have still to clarify their exact policies for intervention in the foreign exchange market; and it will take some while for a clear pattern to emerge from the present confusion.

Meanwhile, the German mark and Dutch guilder are to continue to float. The Federal Economics Minister, Professor Schiller, has said that a "big chance has been missed" by the EEC Ministers. Nevertheless, he believed that Germany's policy of a collective Common Market float was steadily winning support and would be accepted even by France at the next meeting of EEC Finance Ministers on September 13.

No guidance was available last night on the likely duration of the float; but the earliest time at which it could be brought to an end would be after the meeting of EEC Finance Ministers on September 13.

France is to operate a two-tier market. There will be a freely floating "financial franc" for capital and tourist transactions, and yesterday in New York was

set to cover 70-75 per cent. of the total, will take place at an official exchange rate, which the French Government is insisting will not be revalued against the dollar.

There appears, however, to be considerable scepticism in Paris financial circles about the viability of these arrangements and there is a widespread belief that the two rates will eventually be brought together in a modest revaluation.

The Belgians are to continue with their existing two-tier system. The government will initially be on the basis of the Belgian franc will be allowed a controlled upward float.

In contrast to the position prevailing in France, there is expected to be little difference between the two rates for the Belgian franc.

The Italians are not expected to adopt a two-tier system, but to widen the margins to about 4 per cent. on either side of the existing dollar parity.

It is known that M. Schweitzer believes that parity changes are necessary and that he favours a widening of the currency bands to 2-3 per cent. on either side of "fixed" parities.

Efforts to call an early meeting of the Group of Ten Finance Ministers have failed; and they are not expected to gather until September 15. But there is some hope that when the dust thrown up by recent exchanges has

Future of yen

The official Swiss foreign exchange market is to remain closed on Monday unless there is a change in the international monetary system over the weekend.

The Swiss Cabinet is to meet at 8 a.m. on Monday. But the key to the currency settled, a meeting of the Group to be spectacular.

jigsaw puzzle remains the Japanese yen. The biggest world payments disequilibrium is between Japan and the U.S. There is a strong and growing expectation that the Japanese will agree to a revaluation or upward floating of the yen.

The Japanese are, however, also formidable industrial competitors of many European countries; and the larger the appreciation of the yen, the greater the chance that those European countries, such as France, which are now dragging their feet, will eventually agree to take part in a currency realignment against the dollar.

The Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, M. Pierre Paul Schweitzer, has called to Fund members expressing great concern at recent developments. He fears "disorder and discrimination in currency and trade relationships" unless the opportunity is taken to strengthen the international monetary system.

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Efforts to call an early meeting of the Group of Ten Finance Ministers have failed; and they are not expected to gather until September 15. But there is some hope that when the dust thrown up by recent exchanges has

settled, a common realignment of the member-States would take a joint initiative at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Washington at the end of September, with a view to a reform of the international monetary system including a realignment of parities.

There is still an outside chance, therefore, that when the effects of the diversified measures which the Six will now take on their Foreign Exchange markets become clearer after the opening of markets next Monday, a joint solution will be easier to find.

For the rest, the communiqué was decidedly thin in content. It merely stated that the members of the Community were authorised either to float freely or to establish two-tier markets for commercial and financial transactions.

The Council had also decided to instruct the Six's Committee of Central Bank Governors and Monetary Committee to make early proposals on intervention measures which would favour a progressive reduction of fluctuation margins of Community currencies.

As for the substances of the disagreement which finally led to the breakdown of the discussions, this was still very much as it has been all along.

In the last resort, it came down to the fact that the French refused to envisage any revaluation of the franc as part of the internal realignment of Community currencies, and treat with extreme distaste any proposals for a system which entailed a joint float.

Continued on Page 25

15 N. Sea blocks yield £37m.

BY ADRIAN HAMILTON

THE 15 blocks put up for competitive tender in the U.K. North Sea fetched a total of over £37.2m. yesterday afternoon in the first Alaska-style auction ever held in Europe.

Indeed, Central Bank "hot lines" are already in operation to try to minimise possible conflicts in the market intervention policies of different countries and to prevent excessive distortions in the exchange markets.

European central bankers will also be meeting formally in Paris in the middle of next week. This will be at the Board of the European Monetary Agreement, and the meeting will be chaired by M. Alexandre Hay, deputy-governor of the Swiss National Bank.

"Floating rates" in the present context means that the prices of currencies against each other will be settled by the forces of supply and demand in the market place. But national authorities will themselves enter the market in an attempt to prevent excessive fluctuation and perhaps also to influence the course of the rates. Consultations will therefore be necessary to prevent violent clashes of national objectives.

It will clearly take time for foreign exchange markets to get used to the new pattern and fairly wide differences between buying and selling rates may be expected at first. On the other hand, the movement of many

exchange rates is not expected

to prevent violent clashes of national objectives.

While the water depth in the area is over 400 feet and the weather conditions extremely difficult, it lies near where Shell-Esso has drilled a recent well.

No details of the well, on block 21/19, have been released, but it is known to have been sited on an extremely large structure, and it is this which probably induced the block to attract over half the total amount put forward in the round's bid.

At the other end of the scale three of the blocks attracted only one bid, and each of these went to a relatively unknown Canadian independent concern, Chiefland Development Company.

The company, which bid for 13 of the 15 blocks on offer, found itself the only applicant for block 21/14 off Aberdeen at only £3.20; for block 21/7 at £4,800 and for 48/12-13b at £8,000.

"It was really a trial run at the U.K.'s regulations and bidding system," Mr. Stanley A. Milner, president of the company, said afterwards. "We decided on the amount of money which we were prepared to pay in the auction and then graded all the blocks in order of interest."

Most of the bidding, however, was dominated by the more experienced exploration groups in the North Sea, such as BP, Phillips, Total, Mobil, Amoco and Conoco.

Their main interest concentrated on the Scottish waters near existing oil finds and on the diagonal trend line which moves north-west from Phillips' discovery of the giant Ekofisk field in Norwegian waters.

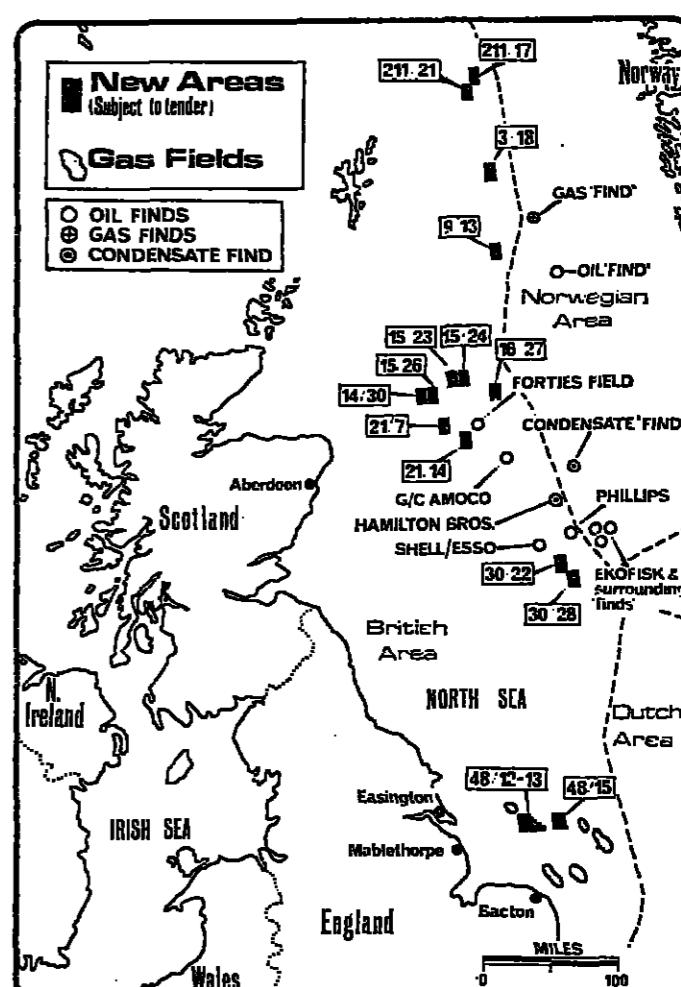
Block 9/13, which lies west of

West Frigg, was the most northerly block on offer, at 20.2 miles off the Shetland Islands.

BP, which joined in partnership with the German national oil group, Deminex, for the auction, offered a total of nearly £8m. for three blocks and was successful at nearly £3.4m. in an offer for 48/15, some 20 miles

offshore of Aberdeen.

The new areas up for tender yesterday shown in relation to existing finds of oil, gas and condensate.



and including Amerada, Texas north-west of its recently-discovered Forties oil field.

Other sizeable bids were made for 15/23, for which Texaco offered just over £1.1m. for block 14/30, which attracted £833,000 from a group headed by the French Total company and including some investment institutions such as the National Westminster Bank.

Total, which has been drilling an exploratory well north-east of the Orkneys for some months, also proved the highest bidder for a block near that well, 3/18, with an offer of £51,000.

For the same amount it also put in the highest bid for the most northerly block on offer, 21/17. In both these applications the Total group was joined by the recently-formed Scottish oil investment consortium, Pict Petroleum.

The Phillips group, which was the first to discover commercial quantities of oil in the North Sea, proved the successful bidder, at £637,666, for block 48/15.

The Hamilton Brothers group, which includes Blackfriars Oil and Rio Tinto-Zinc, offered a large amount, at £671,005, for block 15/22, some 20 miles

offshore of Aberdeen. Possible conclusions Page 22

News Summary

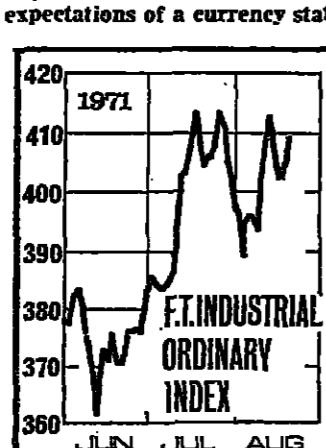
GENERAL

BUSINESS

Lynch strikes back

Equities and gilts move up

• EQUITIES AND GILTS improved in London on hope of a possible Bank Rate cut and expectations of a currency



ment. Equities' index ended 4.3 up at 409.4—which was 3.2 down on the week. Gilts closed at gains ranging to 2 in

mediums.

• GOLD lost 5c at \$43.30.

• TREASURY BILL rate rose £1,036 pc to £5,8286 pc. Page 23

• WALL STREET was quiet.

• OTHER OVERSEAS stock exchanges were less unsettled.

Page 23

• GOVERNMENT MOVES on

UCS are expected over the next fortnight following Sir John Eden's Glaswegian visit. The "embryo Board" of a new Government-backed company based on the Govan-Linthouse complex is likely to be announced early next month.

• ON THE RB-211 ENGINE any formal protest to the U.S. Government against the import surcharge would have to come first from Lockheed Aircraft, in Whitehall's view.

On an annual basis, the July figure, published yesterday by the Department of Employment, represents a 10.1 per cent. rise in retail prices since the same month last year.

In June, the equivalent

advice had been 10.3 per cent.

Despite the apparent slowdown in the rate of increase in the

of

• JOHN PETERS (Furnishing Stores), with record pre-tax profit of £1.04m. (£0.82m.) is to pay a final of 15 per cent. making 19 (17). A one-for-five scrip issue is proposed. Page 16.

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• F.T. INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY share index will from Monday be available hourly seven times a day instead of four. The index figures will be included in the F.T. Business News Summary telephone service on (01) 246 8026. Back Page

Disillusion in Brussels

BY ROBERT MAUTHNER, EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENT

THE reaction in Brussels to-day to the failure of the Six to adopt a common position on the international monetary crisis was one of undisguised consternation and disillusion.

In European Commission circles particularly it was felt that the Six had lost a great opportunity not only to take a firm step forward towards the creation of a European monetary union, but to make a positive contribution to a reform of the international monetary system.

Dr. Sieco Mansholt, the veteran Dutch Vice-President of the Commission, said so in no uncertain terms at the end of the meeting in the early hours of this morning. But his words were also echoed by several Ministers of the member States, particularly those of Benelux.

M. Gaston Eyskens, the Belgian Prime Minister, declared after a special meeting of the Belgian Cabinet this morning that it was no use hiding the fact that the meeting had been a failure.

Only Signor Mario Ferraro-Argagni, the Italian chairman of the Community's Council of Ministers, tried to put a brave face on the proceedings at a post-conference Press briefing.

He said the Six had preferred to fix the broad lines of action rather than to do something hasty, and was convinced that the experience gained would allow them to make progress on September 13, when they are due to meet again.

No-one, however, took this statement at face value, since all the wrangling about details throughout yesterday had made it plain that, until the Six took

BRUSSELS, August 20.

statements in the communiqué issued after the meeting was that the member-States would take a joint initiative at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Washington at the end of September, with a view to a reform of the international monetary system including a realignment of parities.

The Community, therefore, suffered a resounding setback even more serious than the dis-

illusion in Brussels to-day.

It is still an outside chance, therefore, that when the effects of the diversified measures which the Six will now take on their Foreign Exchange markets become clearer after the opening of markets next Monday, a joint solution will be easier to find.

For the rest, the communiqué was decidedly thin in content. It merely stated that the members of the Community were authorised either to float freely or to establish two-tier markets for commercial and financial transactions.

The Council had also decided to instruct the Six's Committee of Central Bank Governors and Monetary Committee to make early proposals on intervention measures which would favour a progressive reduction of fluctuation margins of Community currencies.

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Continued on Page 25

Rise in cost of living slows

BY DAVID WALKER

THE OFFICIAL cost of living rose another 0.9 points in July, the first for six months—the change between the two Julys is still more than in any 12-monthly period in recent months.

The latest figure represents the lowest monthly change for some time at 0.58 per cent. against an average of almost double that for the rest of the year.

In June, the index had advanced by 0.7 per cent., the same as in May, following a six-year record jump of 2.1 per cent. the previous month.

On an annual basis, the July figure, published yesterday by the Department of Employment, represents a 10.1 per cent. rise in retail prices since the same month last year.

Whitehall estimates have given a 0.75 per cent. drop in the index as the likely result of the tax cuts.

In addition, the July figure has to be seen against the background of previous years before the

really rapid onset of price inflation started. Then, seasonal price reductions, particularly on fruit and vegetables, had lowered to at least, flattening out of the index.

This July, the only downward movements singled out by the Department of Employment are reductions in the average price of tomatoes and potatoes.

The principal upward changes involved milk, household coal and coke, and newspapers.

Continued on Page 25

The week in London and

Equities overcome the uncertainties

Although the currency up-heaval has dominated the front fall of 3.2 points at 409.4. Friday to finish with an overall pages this week, it is difficult to be dogmatic about its impact on share prices so far. Indeed,

TOP PERFORMING SHARES IN FOUR WEEKS TO AUGUST 19

	% rise
Property	5.6
Banks	5.3
Electronics	4.1
Food retailing	3.4
Contracting	3.0
Shipping	2.9
All-Share Index	0.8

With the U.S. taking a little over a tenth of total U.K. exports, there is no sense in guessing at the impact on corporate profits until we find out how other currencies are going to settle down against the dollar. Of course, the news meant more for some sectors than for others. The impact on gold and base metal mining shares is discussed elsewhere on this page. As for oils, down 4 per cent on the week, the fear is that if the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries want to renegotiate their agreements, the companies might find it harder to pass on any extra costs this time round.

The 10 per cent surcharge on U.S. imports will be a trial for those companies where keen Mining Supplies' 1970-71 profits pricing is the key to U.S. sales, up by nearly two-thirds and

ESR was sharply down on the Dobson Park forecasting £3.5m.

since there is little use in speculating about the eventual realignment of parities, it is arguable that the market used the events of the week to rationalise what it would have done anyway. With volume even lower than it had been in the previous couple of weeks, the FT Industrial Index slipped 9.9 points in the first three days, and rallied on Thursday and

Friday to finish with an overall gain of 3.2 points at 409.4. The underlying trend has been rather weaker, with falls comfortably outnumbering rises even on Thursday, and the FT All-Share Index trailing behind the FT Industrial Index over the week.

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Countries like Japan, West Germany and Italy were unhappy enough about the last set of price increases, and since then we have had a whole set of oil company profits.

Of course, there is already a rising profits trend among the machinery manufacturers, with Mining Supplies' 1970-71 profits up by nearly two-thirds and

ESR was sharply down on the Dobson Park forecasting £3.5m.

MARKET HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

	Y'day	Change on Week	1971 High	1971 Low	
F.T. Ind. Ord. Index	409.4	-3.2	413.2	305.3	Uncertainty over currency crisis
Treas. B3 "A"	£96	+1	£96	£94	Hopes for Bank Rate cut
Associated Food	91	-19	113	76	Disappointing annual results
BSR	330	-33	386	223	U.S. 10% import surcharge
Botsuwa RST	210	-40	490	200	Cost estimates rise
British Petroleum	587	-31	628	403	Fear of higher OPEC prices
Buffelsfontein	170	-60	330	170	Share dividend cut forecast
Drakes	217	+20	222	74	Good "new-time" demand
General Steam Nav.	610	+170	610	420	Revaluation surplus: bid hopes
Henry (A. & S.)	72	+16	72	31	Bid from Utd. Drapery Stores
Honda (E.D.R.)	115	-55	177	92	U.S. economic measures
Kier (I. L.)	147	+17	147	76	Hopes of fleet tube line contract
Lamson Inds.	87	-11	104	77	Disappointing interim results
Lines Bros.	4	-23	43	2	Proposed liquidation
Lucas (Joseph)	253	-15	272	156	No surcharge exemption for RB-211
Reardon Smith 'A'	50	-15	84	50	Reduced int. div. and profits
Royal Ins.	407	+15	407	265	Cheering first-half results
Sony Co.	400	-80	552	260	U.S. economic measures
Vail Reefs	520	-50	585	460	Disappointing bullion price
Wharf Hldgs.	227	+11	247	107	Bid from Sterling Guarantee

MINES IN THE NEWS

Cry no more for metals

BY KENNETH MARSTON

UNCERTAINTY laced, as it increase. And this also applies to most other manufactured goods which are demanded by the market. This week following President Nixon's dollar crisis measures.

Diamonds, too

So there should be increased sales of, for example, Canadian and Australian nickel, Zambian copper, South African platinum and antimony. And in a more buoyant economy the daughters of the U.S. who are not noted for being slow in coming forward, may well nudge their spouses, as they say, in the direction of those emporia which sell South African shares.

Iron ore fears

The major exception to this is the Australian iron ore industry which relies heavily on the Japanese market. After years of virtually uninterrupted growth the Japanese steel mills have slowed down. One estimate I have heard is that instead of the 110m. tons earlier predicted, this year's steel output in Japan may fall to around 88m. tons from 98m. tons in 1970.

Already feeling dispirited, the Japanese are understandably worried, as a major exporting nation, about the effects of the proposed U.S. import surcharge.

Let us not be carried away. The extent to which the U.S. economy is going to be refasted remains to be seen. It may not be all that exciting and there is also the question of the coming realignment of currencies, which could take some of the cream off higher base metal prices when they are translated into profits in the currency of the mining companies' head-quarter countries.

You will have noticed that the Japanese yen, and the expected revaluation of the yen, rather than a bearish outlook, prices of tin, lead, zinc and copper have fallen this week on the London Metal Exchange. Metal markets are very thin at the moment: engineering works are closed for holidays and transatlantic business is largely cut off from London because with foreign exchange markets closed the overseas traders lack exchange cover.

Consequently, price move the other hand, the Australian iron ore exports to Japan are priced in U.S. dollars which, depending on how currencies line up, could mean lower earnings in terms of Australian dollars. On News Headlines.

Contracts for Australian iron ore exports to Japan are priced in U.S. dollars which, depending on how currencies line up, could mean lower earnings in terms of Australian dollars. On News Headlines.

Meanwhile, those who do not share the U.S. view may continue to see Golds as a hedge against the present currency uncertainties and this week's market shake-out may have gone too far.

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Your savings and investments

More money is being spent on eating out

BY STANLEY GUYER AND WILFRID PICKARD

AMERICAN visitors to this country have had the novel experience this week of finding the dollar an unwanted currency, and being offered less for it than they had expected. This came as a nasty shock to many of them and could bring some check to the number that annually cross the Atlantic.

It is, however, unlikely to bring the tourist boom to a halt as although sterling may become dearer for Americans it could get cheaper for Europeans. And to the extent that European currencies may get dearer in terms of the dollar than sterling it could do this country some good.

Hotellers and caterers are still likely to operate in a growth industry. Catering has recently been seeing the strong upward trend of demand running at a rate of about 8 per cent. has come up since the shares

of restaurant facilities. And no company has appreciated the importance of this more than J. Lyons whose public image—and profitability—has been materially upgraded. Earnings per share on the "A" Ordinary have more than doubled since 1967 from 10.2p to 26p in turnover that has increased by 40 per cent. Earnings on capital employed have been virtually maintained notwithstanding a long awaited property revaluation that added £25.8m. to assets bringing the total to £131.5m. So although the share price is lower than Wheeler's less than justice.

But the share price has risen less than 20 per cent. to 100p

and although the market in the shares is narrow the 5.2 per cent. yield and 11.3 p/e of

WHAT THE BROKERS SAY

THE PROPOSED rights issue by BOVIS could provide a buy-by signal for the shares. After five years of rapid growth, 1971 is likely to be a period of consolidation for the group, leading to renewed expansion in 1972 onwards. That is Greatful and Co.'s assessment of the company and the basis for their recommendation. Of total turnover amounting to some £97m., construction represented £80m., housing £1m. and property £4m.

Whisky in the U.S.

Discussing the impact of the American import surcharge on Scotch whisky sales in the latest of their bulletins, Fielding Newsom-Smith is not unduly worried about the adverse effect because the "American consumer is not highly price-sensitive in this market," nor is the broker overmuch concerned about the possibility of another longshoremen's strike. More serious in the long term is the growing sales of Canadian whisky in the U.S., which increased last year by 10 per cent. against 5 per cent. for Scotch; and the impact of the lighter whiskies that will reach maturity next year onwards. DISTILLERS is preferred to IDV.

Quickly off the mark, Myers and Co. issued their assessment of post-Nixon stock markets on Monday. The strongly protectionist measures were necessarily seen as making it harder for British exporters to the U.S., notably cars. But the boost

that these measures will give to the American economy is already seen to be good for Wall Street and this should have favourable medium-term implications for our own market.

Selling signals

A sign of the times is the increasing appearance of selling recommendations by brokers. When the market has been through a period of recovery as we have just experienced there will always be cases where a switch of investment should be beneficial. Stirling and Co. thinks that SMITH AND NEPHEW will only produce growth of around 10 per cent. in future and advise a sale of the shares.

More generally, George Henderson believes that the time has come for a change of emphasis out of stores, House of Fraser, Sears Holdings, United Drapery and most breweries have become apparent. At 10p the shares yield 7.5 per cent. and with Allied and Bass Charrington being particularly vulnerable to a switch into selected building and engineering stocks.

Unit trusts

Overseas funds and the dollar crisis

BY KEITH LEWIS

THE PAST WEEK'S events on the international currency front have had quite an impact on world stock markets. The most notable changes, predictably, have been recorded on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones Industrial index had by yesterday morning risen 5 per cent. since last week-end, and on the Japanese market, where the new SE index plunged 17 per cent.

First, although holders of the two authorised Japanese funds—Save and Prosper and Japan Growth Fund and M and G Japan Fund—have so far shown no eagerness to bale out, the measures adopted by the U.S. have clearly been designed to have the greatest effect on Japan's trading position.

Violent reactions

Elsewhere, the news has not always sparked off quite such violent reactions. In London, for example, the FT Actuaries All-Share index has receded by roughly 2 per cent. over the period, while in Australia—which, it is thought, is bound to suffer from the inevitable switch in Japan's exporting efforts—the Sydney All-Ordinary has come off some 3 per cent. over the past week.

However, compared with what has happened since the start of 1971 the past week's movements have been small fry, and the only investors who have cause for complaint are those tied up in the Australian market: the Sydney All-Ordinary

index has fallen back 10 per cent. over the seven months. The Dow Jones is higher by 5 per cent. in particular is worried that the FT Actuaries All-Share index is up by 30 per cent. and established while the foreign exchange markets are closed. The only realistic way to that it may be—the rise in back.

At the moment there are two ways to invest in overseas securities: either through one of these dollar loans or through the investment dollar pool. In the past, when the investment dollar premium has been low it has not been worthwhile to arrange a back-to-back loan. On the other hand, partial observers have been expecting harsh measures from one side or the other for some time now and managers of both of the funds mentioned have been prudent enough to give the large exporting companies a wide berth. In both trusts there is a preponderance of defensive stocks, including banks, insurance, construction and retail stores shares.

One major broker in London has described the reaction by the Tokyo SE—historically volatile at the best of times—as panicky. One problem is the switch on deposit and therefore more cash will be available for actual investment. Furthermore, if the latest U.S. in the event of a yen revaluation the Sterling value of the Tokyo SE index is ahead exchange markets are closed. Exchange's reaction suggests

that a sterling amount equivalent to the dollar loan at the ruling exchange rate put on deposit. If an official devaluation of the dollar is in prospect then less sterling will have to be on deposit and therefore more cash will be available for actual investment.

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Finance and the family

Policy for deceased wife

BY OUR LEGAL STAFF

I took out a life assurance policy naming my wife as beneficiary. She has since died and I have remarried. (a) should I take any action, and if so, what? (b) What would happen if I took no action, that is, if I had died without it having been pointed out to me that my first wife had been named in the policy?

If, as we assume to have been the case, the policy was effected under the Married Women's Property Act, then the position is that the policy moneys form part of her estate, and must be dealt with by her personal representative. This may very well be you, but, of course, need not be. In any event the ultimate proceeds will pass under her will, or intestacy, as the case may be.

If you are entitled to the benefit of policy under your wife's will or intestacy you can, if you wish, take the action of designating it to your present wife.

The situation is in no way altered by the fact that it might not have been pointed out to you before you died—the destination of the moneys would be the same.

More than one trustee

Following the death of a trustee of an estate in which my wife has a life interest, the remaining trustee proposes to carry on alone, although he is a remainderman. If this is permissible should the other beneficiaries call for annual audits of the accounts and inspection of the assets?

The answer to your question is

Gains tax on tenanted residence

1

I inherited a house from my grandmother in 1962 and allowed a great uncle and aunt who had been living with her to remain there, at a nominal rent of £100 a year, to include rates and insurance. These relatives have now gone and I propose to sell.

We do not understand what exactly the obligations in the title are or why your son has to fulfil them. If the solicitor fears the possibility of a claim in the future he still has no right to retain your son's money. In any event, if any future claim is made against your son, the obligation being his, the solicitor can have no cause to retain money, while if the claim may be made against the solicitor,

It is impossible to advise you fully without a sight of the documentation under which you have paid your £50. But if there is any "short cut" such as you require, it can only lie in assigning your rights against the property company to a third person, who would pay you for the assignment. Whether you a new trustee or new trustees hereof shall be rested in the

gains tax purposes has to take account of the tenancy.

The answers to your questions are therefore:—

(a) The valuation in 1962 for estate duty which included the factor of the tenancy will be the value to be used for capital gains tax purposes.

(b) The valuation at April 6, 1965, will have to include as a factor of the valuation the subsisting tenancy.

(c) If the house had been provided rent free and without any other consideration it might have been possible if the rela-

tives were incapacitated by old age or infirmity from maintaining themselves to obtain relief for capital gains tax on the basis of a private residence provided for dependent relatives under Section 29 (10), Finance Act 1965. However, in your circumstances it would seem that you could not satisfy all the tests imposed for the relief.

In the circumstances it would seem that capital gains tax will be payable and that it is likely that the 1962 probate value with time apportionment would give the minimum tax payable.

No legal responsibility can be accepted by the FINANCIAL TIMES for the answers given in these columns. All inquiries will be answered by post as soon as possible. No charge is made for this service except in relation to investment matters.

settler during his lifetime." Is there any way I can get rid of one of the trustees, and if not can I appoint two new trustees to give power to any three to act without the fourth?

You have a power of appointing new trustees, not a power of removal. Equally you have no power to impose any conditions such as you envisage when you appoint new trustees.

Accordingly, all you can do is to appoint two new trustees to act with the existing two. If the trustees cannot agree, then they will have to apply to the Court for directions, or some person interested in the trust will have to apply to the Court for the removal of one, or both, existing trustees.

Family and financial circumstances can change almost beyond recognition. The purchaser may not need his policies or may wish to make substantial alterations. Or his personal circumstances may be such that for a time he completely overlooks the need to keep up his life premiums—as did a reader who wrote to me recently.

The other is to hold the remaining balance to the policyholder's credit for a specified period.

Term assurances apart, almost

every policy has a lapse and revival clause, which usually begins with the statement that the policy will lapse if the premium is not paid at the due date or within the days of grace and if the policy has not by then acquired any surrender value. The clause then goes on to declare that despite such lapse the policy can be revived within the subsequent year if the policyholder pays the back premium plus interest thereon at the insurers' specified rate, and if the life assured is still healthy enough to continue to obtain and enjoy life assurance on the terms afforded him prior to the lapse. In other words, reinstatement may not be possible if in the interim for example the life assured has sustained a coronary.

So long as the policy is still in existence, the premiums paid out of the surrender value, together with the interest charged thereon, are counted as a debt on the policy, which must be set against the original sum assured in the event of a claim for death or on maturity. Interest is charged because in essence the use of the surrender value amounts to a loan on the policy.

At first sight the policyholder who relies on his non-forfeiture clause might appear to be in the same situation as his neighbour who positively borrows on the surrender value of the policy to pay the premium. But their tax positions are entirely different; for it is only the latter who can claim income tax relief in respect of his premiums.

Normally this is a once only clause, so the life assured should not make habit of failing to pay his premiums. Moreover, for practical purposes it operates only in the early years of the policy—with most companies, only in the first two or three years. The reason is that when a policy has been in existence long enough to acquire a surrender value sufficient to pay at least one year's premium—and this point of time varies from one insurer to another, on from one insurer to the next—the non-forfeiture clause usually comes into operation. There is no standard non-forfeiture clause, but the purpose of all such clauses is to keep the policy alive, at least for a year and more often for so long as there is sufficient surrender value in the policy to pay the premiums.

Practice has changed over the years and I think there are now relatively few policies which insurers undertake to keep alive for only one year: but of those that do, at the end of that time, there are two schools of thought. One is to employ the remaining balance of the surrender value to create a free paid up policy payable at the same maturity date as the original or at the death of the life assured as the case may be.

Anyone with whole of life or endowment cover whose financial or personal circumstances are drastically and irrevocably changed has two positive courses of action—either to ask his insurers to provide him with a policy for a reduced sum assured on terms similar to those already agreed but with no more premiums payable, or to surrender his policy for cash.

The individual's particular circumstances must dictate which course he takes, but surrender is only rarely the better one.

Insurance

Preserving life policies

BY JOHN PHILIP

EVEN if the purchaser is clear as to the reasons why he wants life assurance—for protection of dependants, for collateral for a house purchase loan, for saving for retirement, simply for investment, or for some combination of all or any of these purposes—he must appreciate that a life assurance contract is a long-term undertaking, and that much can happen in subsequent years to upset the purchaser's original calculations.

Term assurances apart, almost every policy has a lapse and revival clause, which usually begins with the statement that the policy will lapse if the premium is not paid at the due date or within the days of grace and if the policy has not by then acquired any surrender value. The clause then goes on to declare that despite such lapse the policy can be revived within the subsequent year if the policyholder pays the back premium plus interest thereon at the insurers' specified rate, and if the life assured is still healthy enough to continue to obtain and enjoy life assurance on the terms afforded him prior to the lapse. In other words, reinstatement may not be possible if in the interim for example the life assured has sustained a coronary.

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Anyone with whole of life or endowment cover whose financial or personal circumstances are drastically and irrevocably changed has two positive courses of action—either to ask his insurers to provide him with a policy for a reduced sum assured on terms similar to those already agreed but with no more premiums payable, or to surrender his policy for cash.

The individual's particular circumstances must dictate which course he takes, but surrender is only rarely the better one.

Raising false hopes

It is possible to take legal action against estate agents who allow signboards to remain outside vacant properties with prices on them far below those now current?

No, we do not consider that there is any legal remedy for such a situation. It is not fraudulent misrepresentation because they do not get you to do anything on the strength of it: obviously, the information raises your hopes, but this (and the subsequent let down) is a matter of which the law takes cognizance.

More than one trustee

Following the death of a trustee of an estate in which my wife has a life interest, the remaining trustee proposes to carry on alone, although he is a remainderman. If this is permissible should the other beneficiaries call for annual audits of the accounts and inspection of the assets?

The answer to your question is

Transfers on a 50p stamp

There were two trustees of the deposit before you had actually found a person willing to take the assignment.

You have a power of appointing new trustees, not a power of removal. Equally you have no power to impose any conditions such as you envisage when you appoint new trustees.

Accordingly, all you can do is to appoint two new trustees to act with the existing two. If the trustees cannot agree, then they will have to apply to the Court for directions, or some person interested in the trust will have to apply to the Court for the removal of one, or both, existing trustees.

A profit on a house

I decided to buy a new house and deposited £50 with the property company, but I shall not now require it when finished at the end of the year.

Meantime, the price of the next phase to new buyers has risen by £400 and seems likely to go higher. Can you suggest any short cut to making a profit out of this situation?

It is impossible to advise you fully without a sight of the documentation under which you have paid your £50. But if there is any "short cut" such as you require, it can only lie in assigning your rights against the property company to a third person, who would pay you for the assignment. Whether you a new trustee or new trustees hereof shall be rested in the

Getting rid of a trustee

I made a settlement in favour of my grandchildren and appointed their parents trustees. The deed provides that "the power of appointing

any new trustee or new trustees hereof shall be rested in the

Qualifications for a pension

I am 46. I paid National Insurance contributions as an

employee for 10 years, as

self-employed for 5 years and as non-employed for the last

8 years, but I cannot discover

whether I shall get a pension.

Would buying a self-employed stamp qualify me, or would a non-employed one achieve the same result?

In order to qualify for full

national insurance pension you

have to achieve during your

working life an average of 50

stamps per year. A working life

is taken as being from the age

of 18 to the age in the case of

men 65 and in the case of

women 60. For those who were

on July 5, 1948 over 18 the

working life is taken as the

period from July 5, 1948 to the

age of 60 or 65 as appropriate.

It would seem from the informa-

tion that you give us, that if the

cards so far submitted for you

have been stamped in full that

is to say 52 stamps on each card

and that you proceed for the

next 19 years until your 65th

birthday to stamp your cards

with a class III non-employed

stamp that you will then qualify

for a full pension. Should you at

any time take up employment or

commence self-employment,

then you should insure that the

correct class of stamp is affixed

either by the employer or in the

case of self-employment by

yourself. The practice on all life policies is

to allow a month's grace where

the premium is payable annu-

ally, but no more than 15 days

as to the reasons why he wants

life assurance—for protection of

dependants, for collateral for

a house purchase loan, for saving

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nation of all or any of these

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date or within the days of grace

and if the policy has not by

then acquired any surrender

value. The clause then goes</

How to spend it

Cassettes and cartridges listed

"But what on earth can you play on it? I've never heard anything but Henry Mancini," said a friend when I made him sit and listen to the tone of a cartridge player I had on temporary trial. So I posted the Schubert cartridge.

He's not the only one who believes that everything is still. The address for all lists and circular discs is Academic Services, Redan House, 1, Redan Place, London, W.2.

Sickness insurance abroad

A friend of a friend got smashed up in Spain, with a long, long illness as the result. The cost has been astronomical, and the young lady's life temporarily rather blighted by the whole incident.

BUPA offers short-term extra cover to augment normal BUPA benefits. You can buy £1,000 of extra protection for medical care abroad, and it will cost you £2 a head for 28 days. My goodness, how well worth while, and it is all done so easily with vouchers.

I never cease to be amazed at the BUPA services which grow all the time. Private nursing for homes, schools, hotels, industrial organisations and anywhere is often useful (there's a leaflet on the subject).

If you want to know more about it, the address is Provident House, Essex Street, London, WC2R 3AX, and there are a good many branches too.

Discs at a discount is the service offered by a company which sells leading brand-name discs by direct mail. Actually, the company has two services. One sells records at reduced prices—like £3 for a disc normally retailing at £3.49; or £2.80 for a disc selling at £3.25; and

so on. Lists can be sent on application.

The other is a voucher service.

While the cheaper discs

are primarily aimed at students,

the vouchers will, it is hoped, be bought by parents whose children can then buy at discount.

There are £1 vouchers, valid

only for records bought from

Academy Music, which sells

pretty well every brand name in

discs except Music For Pleasure.

Believe that everything is still.

The address for all lists and

circular discs is Academic

Services, Redan House, 1, Redan

Place, London, W.2.



A line-up of Merrydown wines makes a nicely appetising, attractive picture. That is not, however, the only reason for using it. Bringing Merrydown English fruit wines to your attention is the main reason—some of you may have seen the Merrydown vineyard on TV on Wednesday night of this week.

I have been trying out their wines. Years ago, when I was rather broke, and when the long, hot summer of 1959 induced outdoor living with chilled wine, I fell for inexpensive Merrydown Apple Wine. By coincidence, my father bought a house next to the Merrydown headquarters, Horam Manor. Even after some arguments about the smell of rotting fruit between my father and the Merrydowners, later happily resolved, I continued to drink the Apple Wine. Then I forgot all about it.

Now the Merrydown wines are not so noted for cheapness, thanks to revenues. But they are different, and one gets the nice feeling that they are doing one good. Gooseberry is a good one, and Redcurrant is very good. Elderberry is fun to serve and to talk about. Bilberry is delicious, and I rather like Orange, Cherry and White Currant. The thing about them is that people argue, and that no two people in a small gathering seem to agree on what they like.

Prices are around 65p to 72p the bottle. All the wines are 22 per cent. proof spirit—Cherry and Ginger being the exceptions at 24.5 per cent. proof.

For home winemakers—and my daughter gets excellent results in French wines with concentrates from Southern Vineyards, of Hove, Sussex—Merrydown is doing Mead and Apple Juice. I have smelled the mead in fermentation and it is redolent of the honey already. The 40-ounce bottle (to make 2½ gallons of mead) sells at 95p. The gallon jar (to make 10 gallons) costs £3.40. Prices for the Winemakers Apple Juice, Martlet W.A.J., are the same. Fermentation takes 5 to 8 weeks and the resulting wine will be about 21 per cent. proof spirit.

Before bidding farewell to the Merrydowners, I do want to congratulate them on the Martlet vinegars. Honegar is honey vinegar, for which I haven't quite discovered a specific use although I am sure there is one. It tastes good. The Cider and Apple Juice Vinegars are delicious in dressings, on their own or with oil, and at any other time you would use this kind of fruit vinegar. The Martlet honeys are good, too. Try Hungarian Acacia, Fijian Tropical Flower and Comb in a Jar. Around 23p to 24p each and excellent (32p for the comb in a jar).

Most good health food shops stock the honeys and vinegars, and the wine concentrates, too. Get any stockists in your area by writing to the Merrydown Wine Company at Horam Manor, Horam, Heathfield, Sussex.

Sheila Black

Vinyl drapet to protect good carpets

I have this white Indian carpet which I want to put in my newly-painted living room. But I also have this 18-month-old Dalmatian who swims in the Serpentine (at 7 in the morning, with me having been dragged out of bed to take him there) and who loves to get back to roll on carpets. If he is dry by the time he returns, and he often is, he chews tiny rubbery fragments off guaranteed too-hard-to-chew bouncing balls. Or he fiercely defends himself against the tattered remains of a rubber-backed rug which insists on attacking him all the time and sheds as it does.

Or he... well, you can see he and my white carpet aren't exactly compatible. So I hired me to Harrods for a drapet. That was some weeks ago—they wanted six weeks to make it. Then I found dozens of people who didn't know what a drapet was, apart from the fact that it is something I am waiting for.

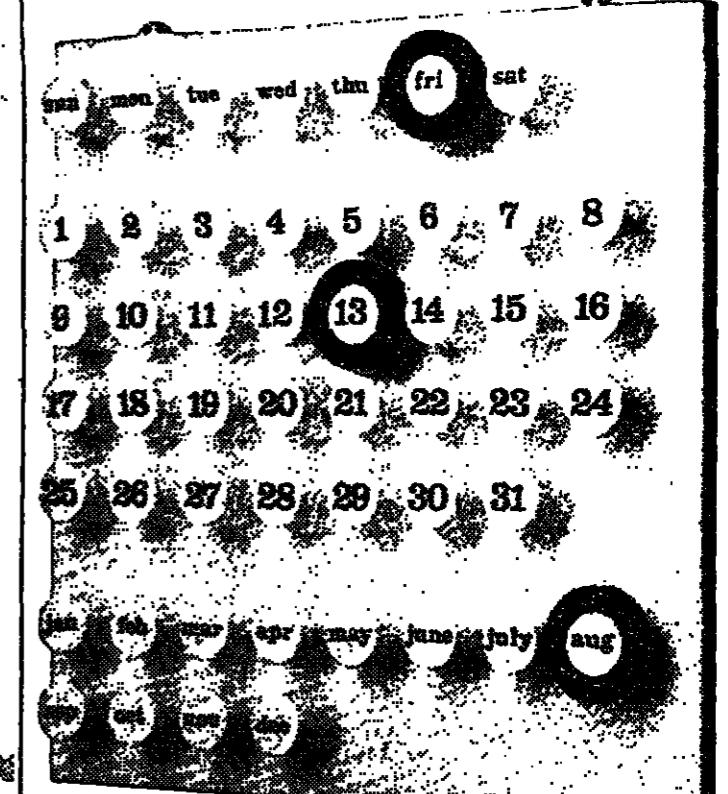
Well, it is a protective covering for carpets. Strips of the

stuff cover carpets in bad weather or when too many people are trooping in to banqueting and similar places.

I have in the office the modern equivalent of the old tough fabric drapet. This is a really strong "C-Through Vinyl Carpet Protective Runner," as the distributor so snappily calls it.

The runner is as clear as the name suggests so that patterns and colours show through it. The underside is spiky so as to prevent slipping but with tiny spikes that will not hurt the pile. The runner is 27 inches wide and costs £1.13 a linear yard. Useful for homes, cars, hotels, anywhere. But do remember one thing. It is pretty bulky when rolled up for storage. Since mine is to be about 12 by 10 feet, I stick to the fabric. I would certainly use this to protect good carpeting because one would probably rarely store the stuff and, in any case, the pieces would be small.

For information on where to buy the Vinyl drapet, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to AOC of 164 Pinner Road, Harrow, Middlesex. Phone 01-863 7161.



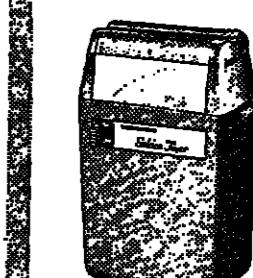
I like this everlasting calendar. Ideal for offices, dens, young rooms, kitchens (if you want the date there, but it looks nice anyway) and reception lounges.

Designed in Italy, it is made of glossy, white, moulded plastic, easy to wipe clean or to wash. It measures 18½ inches square. The days, dates and months are on cylindrical pegs. Close-fitting rings grip and frame the appropriate pegs to highlight the current dates. Day and month letters are red, with black framing rings, while figures are black, with red framing rings. It retails at £3.50 (add 35p for postage and packing if you buy mail order). Personal or mail shopping from either F. J. Turnbull, of 28, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.4, just a stone's throw from St. Paul's; or from Abacus, of 17, Baker Street, London, W.1, not far from the Classic Cinema, near the Marylebone Road end and on the West side of Baker Street.

Another mystery picture



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Smoother, closer... you've heard it all before, but now you can really experience it. This is the finest shaver in the world. With its sleek body crowned with a Gold Plated head, you shave hands with luxury every morning.

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Send for descriptive leaflet and the name of your nearest 'Flyer' stockist, or if you're in London why not visit us and try one?

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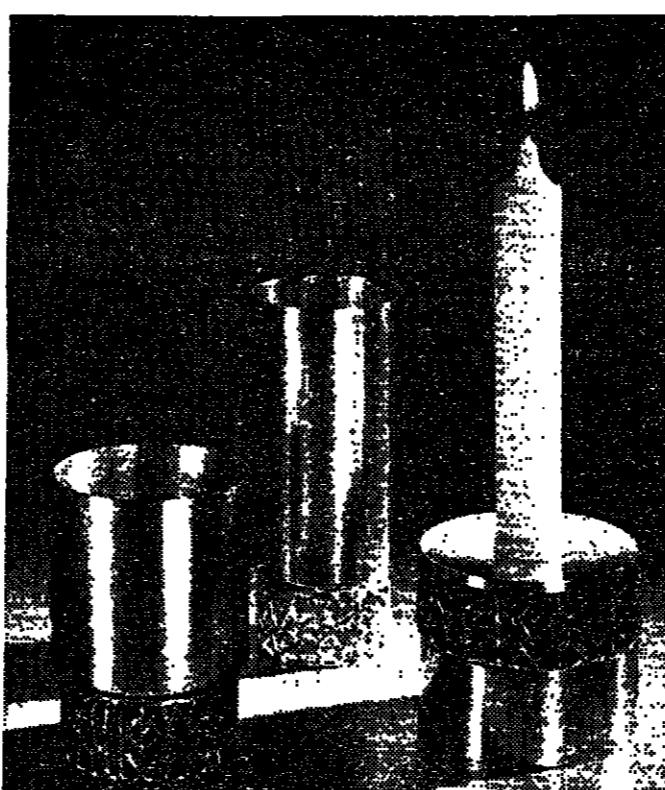
• You do not have to love opera and ballet to love the current exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum, entitled "Twenty-five years of Opera and Ballet." The concoction of music, film, lighting, and stagey sets comes off to delight the eye and ear, taking you backstage, on stage, into the stalls. Back-up literature, discs, etc., will be on sale and every 500th visitor will get a £1 gift voucher to offset against opera or ballet tickets. Ends October 10.

• Boys of all ages, and a few girls, would enjoy "Chuffs," the dealer in secondhand model railways and other bits and pieces—anything from N gauge to Gauge 2, with Dinkies and pre-war clockwork toys as well. The place is as much a social club as railway shop and always great fun at 2, Broadway Street, London, N.W.8.

So successful has Chuffs been that the City of London now gets a branch. "Son of Chuffs" is at 3, Bucklersbury, London, E.C.4, and the telephone number is 01-248 7201/7309.

• More room at the top with a loft conversion. One good specialist in the work is Crescourt Loft Conversions of 10-54, Roebeck Lane, West Bromwich. Send for leaflets.

• Humidification is something



Two famous young designers, Gillian Packard and Christopher Lawrence, are well known to FT readers. He for his silver and gaudous tableware in smooth or rugged silver along with his noble presentation pieces. She for her jewellery which, while as modern as any, is so graceful and sort of restful, wearable with anything on any occasion at any age.

His cruet is pictured here. See the work of both at the special Edinburgh Festival display at Hamilton and Inches, of 87, George Street, Edinburgh EH2 3 EY.

Now look at the next column.

Making the best of a TV set's looks

TV sets may be essentials but they are usually ugly and obtrusive. Yet, I know I'll offend and upset all sorts of good friends who make nice-looking sets, whose designs I have admired.

They will remind me of my praise of their new models. I particularly like the new sets from GEC (Radio and Television) of Langley Park, Slough, Bucks. Do ask for leaflets and stockists (write to the publicity department). Some sets are on satiny steel cruciform bases with one slender stem. Others on white, plastic pedestal bases which are reminiscent of the Arkana furniture I like so much. Prices are good, too, as well as the clean lines of these new ranges.

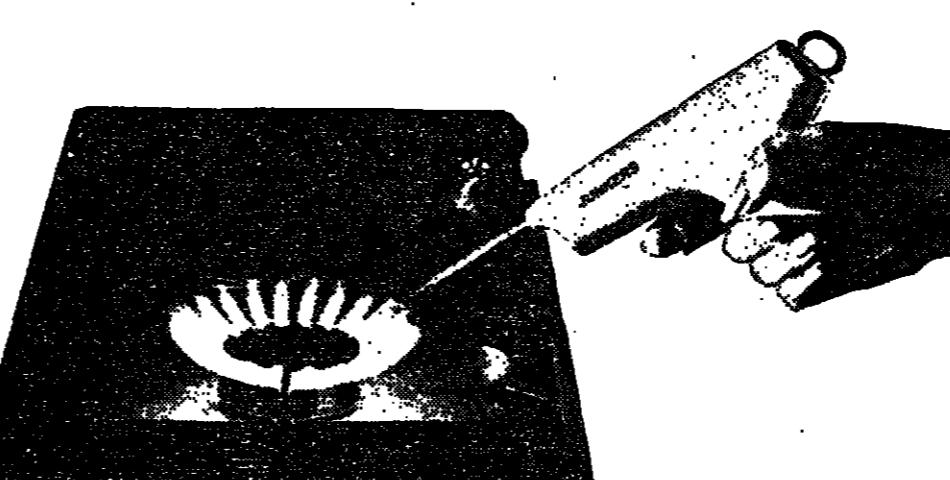
Anyway, regardless of my praise, a TV set is, to me, only comparatively nice-looking. It is still an intruder in any room, or almost any room, however it looks.

All this leads up to a bracket, a wall bracket, on which to stand your set. I cannot show a picture of it because that's the point of it. The bracket is almost invisible. Very well made, heavy it is. It is out of the way, very well finished, and very at the right height, and some strong, this bracket is made in better looking virtually in two pieces. An arm is fixed to "mid-air." Essential furniture to the wall, with two giant metal space is saved.

Another thing about higher-up

sets—they are more comfortably so as to be amply strong, able to view when lying down. of a chest of drawers or similar to the underside of the set (4 screws). This metal plate slots on to the arm with a hole and a peg system. The result is a set that can be easily swivelled from left to right, however most invisible. Very well made, heavy it is. It is out of the way, very well finished, and very at the right height, and some strong, this bracket is made in better looking virtually in two pieces. An arm is fixed to "mid-air." Essential furniture to the wall, with two giant metal space is saved.

Another thing about higher-up



The Piezo crystals system, so proven and so good in cigarette lighters, is now firing a new igniter for gas cookers. To recap, deformed crystals set off an "electric" spark which is strong enough to light up a gas.

This is the Junkers Piezo Gas Igniter, introduced here by Evered and Co. (Hardware), of Surrey Works, Smethwick, Warley, Wors., so get stockists' names from that address—it is in better hardware shops now. The price is about £2.25. I like the fact that there are no trailing wires, as well as its excellent pistol-shaped design, with an easy-to-use trigger. It works on all gas appliances, including bottled gas units, and, of course, it works, like a lighter, without connection to the gas cooker or other unit. About 8½ inches long, it weighs only 5½ ounces and can hang on a self-adhesive wall hook sold with it.

Another metal piece is screwed able to view when lying down. of a chest of drawers or similar to the underside of the set (4 screws). This metal plate slots on to the arm with a hole and a peg system. The result is a set that can be easily swivelled from left to right, however most invisible. Very well made, heavy it is. It is out of the way, very well finished, and very at the right height, and some strong, this bracket is made in better looking virtually in two pieces. An arm is fixed to "mid-air." Essential furniture to the wall, with two giant metal space is saved.

Another thing about higher-up

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Freehold Factory, 4,200 sq. ft. Midland, West Midlands, present. Good order book. Details from Box B.5729. Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

Property and housing



One of two pairs of cottages at Kimberley Green, Norfolk, designed by Norwich architect Clifford Dann for Forehoe and Henstead Rural District Council. Two very dilapidated thatched houses stood on the site before and these sympathetic replacements blend well with their rural surroundings.

Thatch is alive and well

BY JOE RENNISON

THATCHED houses—and more particularly, cottages—tend to bring out the worst in the British house buyer. They all seem to go weak at the knees at the mere mention of it. This is the ideal home at last: visions of quiet rural charm, cosy winter evenings by the log fire, security and prosperity and nice neighbours. While one or more of these elements may come with the purchase, there is no doubt that thatch tends to make arch-romantics of us all.

Perhaps I had seen too many Hollywood Elizabethan mock-ups, or suffered an overdose of lyrical estate agents' particulars with their "delightful thatched and half timbered period residence with old-world charm." At any rate it took many years for me to realise that in certain situations and certain rural environments, thatch is quite simply "right."

There are still plenty of such houses to be bought, and though they come in a range of sizes they are seldom of manorial proportions. But before I give on the market, there are a few points relating to thatched houses which may or may not deter you.

The first point which can create problems is finding a building society prepared to give you a mortgage on a thatched property. Though most building societies say they are willing to contemplate any proposal, in practice they tend to be rather conservative, and since thatch

and half timbering (many thatched dwellings feature timber in the basic house structure) fall outside the ordinary run of requests, it may take quite a search before you find a society willing to grant the finance you need.

The other major deterrent (it would be so to me but estate agents say it does not put people off) is the cost of insurance premiums, which are high for the simple reason that thatch and timber structures are high on the list of fire risks. One of the large insurance companies described how they assess the factors which have to be taken into account when deciding the level of premium.

Assessment

When they get a request for insurance assessment, an inspector is sent from their nearest branch office who checks on the age and state of repair of the building and the roof. He then inspects the fire precautions in the house, which will take in the soundness of electrical installations and the number of fire extinguishers. Finally, since thatched buildings tend to burn very fast if they do catch light, he has to check where the nearest fire station is, and the nearest source of water.

On the basis of these variables the company decides its premium. As a rough guide, I was told, a thatched dwelling might

cost between 62p per £100 to £1 per £100 to insure, in comparison with a sum of around 12p per £100 for a brick and tile house.

The risk element in a thatched house means that insurance for the contents is also affected, and here the suggested figures were a rate of between 75p and £1.25 per £100 as against 25p per £100 for a house of standard construction. Though these margins are quite wide, they represent only one company's general guidelines, and if you have a thatched house to insure there is a very good case for using the services of an insurance broker who should be able to find out for you which company offers the most competitive rate for your situation.

I have heard complaints from people who insure their thatched properties through a building society that their premiums are unnecessarily high. If the owner does not feel he is paying too much to his building society's insurance company and thinks he can get a lower premium elsewhere, it is surely worth his while proposing to the society that he make other arrangements.

Ancient and venerable though most thatched properties may be, it is obvious that unless there were still skilled men to maintain and renew thatch these houses would long since have been resigned to tile or decay. Contrary to my expectation, at least, thatching is a thriving industry, and there are currently

some 500 working thatchers in the country. What is even more encouraging is that there is an increasing number of new recruits to the industry.

Should you need to get in touch with a thatcher or to ask advice on some aspect of the thatching, the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas or the National Society of Master Thatchers' Associations (a federation of 11 county Master Thatchers' Associations) will be able to help you. Both the Council and the National Association can be contacted at 35 Camp Road, Wimbledon Common, London SW19.

The Assistant Secretary of the Master Thatchers' Association explained that there are basically three types of thatching material, each of which has a different lifespan. The most durable is Norfolk reed, which should last from 60 to 80 years, followed by combed wheat reed which has a life expectancy of between 35 and 40 years. Lastly there is long straw, which will last up to 25 years. The durability of the materials is reflected in their price, but beyond this a variety of factors—including the distance which the material has to be carried to the job—affects the quotation which any thatcher will offer a householder.

Bearing in mind the variety of factors which can affect the final cost of thatching, prices per square—"an area of 100 sq. ft. which is the thatcher's standard measure—would be, very Crouch.

cost between £2.50 per £100 to £1 per £100 to insure, in comparison with a sum of around 12p per £100 for a brick and tile house.

roughly, £35-£40 for Norfolk reed, £25-£35 for combed wheat reed and £20-£30 for long straw. Each of these materials is likely to need a bit of maintenance about half way through its life, and complete rethatching will take two men, on average, between six and eight weeks to complete.

A last thought on thatching material, and one which will doubtless send a shiver down the spine of thatchers and thatch lovers, is the possibility of plastic fire resistant thatch... Reanchrest, who already produce a variety of simulated wood products, say they would be keen to hear from anyone who wanted plastic thatch, though they have not yet tried to produce any. If there are any pioneering spirits among our readers, here is a chance for them to show their confidence in British technology.

There are plenty of opportunities to buy thatched property in the southern half of England. Just outside Oxford at Yarnton, there is a thatched house known as Tudor Cottage, which is in fact two cottages knocked into one. The thatch was replaced only two years ago, and the house has four bedrooms, two reception rooms and two garages. The freehold of this 16th century cottage is for sale through Buckell and Ballard of Oxford for £10,500.

Not so with a play. You can't put on *Hamlet* as you would put on *Harold in Italy*.

In its early days, Edinburgh set a standard difficult indeed to maintain, though it still remained, despite its comparative poverty of its comparative poverty of its choirs and places where they sing, the standards don't seem to have fallen below the high level envisaged when the Festival began in 1947. But organisations of music is very different from organising a festival of drama. You can't book your orchestra, your soloist or your opera company to come and play the required stints of Brahms or Verdi between the previous engagement in Amsterdam and the next one in Milan, knowing that the article will arrive complete and ready for use.

It hadn't become evident that an international festival of theatre such as was so lavishly offered in the first few years was no longer on. The need to tighten the post-war alliance of the Royal Court had already demanded the old-style star productions: visits from foreign companies have become less of a festival and other repertory companies from England and Scotland. From abroad, there were Louis Jouvet's company and the Renaud-Barrault's Comédie Française and Edwige Feuillère (the auld alliance maintaining its strength); a visit in 1949 from Dusseldorf — Goethe's *Faust*—was a welcome sign, so soon after the end of the war, that what was held of labelled an International Festival of revue made up in polish precedence over political.

By setting so high a standard in the first years, Edinburgh was assured of critical comment as soon as the quality began to drop. One may well say at once, "wrote that most generous of critics, Eric Keown, in 1959.

That on this year's showing the Festival is running into danger, so far as its theatre goes; to provide only one new play, and that done by a repertory, will scarcely keep its reputation afloat... A string of revivals from the home front, no matter

Delightful

Again in Oxfordshire, Alfred Sauri, Curtis and Henson are offering three delightful thatched cottages which appeal to me the more for being stone built rather than timber. The Crooked House at Hook Norton (if those names did not exist, someone would have had to invent them) is four bedrooms, £100 for the freehold.

The White Hart Cottage used to be the village pub for Epwell, and now has four bedrooms and three reception rooms and is for sale for £9,950.

Lastly there is a smaller (two bedroomed) cottage, The Old Forge near Banbury, which overlooks open country and for which the asking price is £7,500.

From the countryside of Oxfordshire and a modest £7,500 you could turn your attention to a splendid six bedroom, property at Broom Close, Esham in Surrey, where Manx and Co. are asking £38,000 for the freehold of the house and an acre of garden. The thatching, as befits the trim house and garden, looks as though it received weekly attention from one of the more expensive London hairdressers. But making up in charm what it lacks in splendour is a smaller property from the Poole office of the same agents. This is Castle Cottage near Blandford in Dorset, which has three bedrooms and is for sale at £11,950.

Next week: Burnham-on-

Sea, and Wymark's scintillating Triple Image.

The following year brought

see, we'll see.

The form in which the drama of the festival has now, in some settled down is less festive than in the old days, but indicative of the increased seriousness that has fallen on the theatre between 1947 and to-day. In 1957, for example (by which time the theatrical scene had expanded from its original confinement to the Lyceum and the Royal Assembly Hall to take in the Gaiety and the Church Hill Theatre) the "string of revivals" included Prospect's memorable *Cherry Orchard* with Lili Kedrav; James Earl Jones in *The Emperor Jones: Ubu Roi*; and two productions by Frank Dunlop's Pop Theatre that laid the foundations for the Young Rumanian Bulandra Theatre in the Old Vic. New plays included Prospect's admirable adaptation of *Henry IV* less so. The home team from the Royal Lyceum team from the Royal Lyceum gave a splendid *The Changeling* last year, and I look forward to their version of *Hogarth's Confessions of a Justified Sinner* this year.

As for the international aspect, it is good that we east our net more widely. The Paris Productions d'Aujourd'hui last year in their Joneses programme was charming; *Orlando Furioso* was superb; the *Combines*' anti-militarist revue made up in fervour what it lacked in polish. As long as the Festival directors can be relied on for such offbeat discoveries, they are on the right lines. I am particularly looking forward this year to the foundations for the Young Rumanian Bulandra Theatre in the Old Vic. New plays included Prospect's admirable adaptation of *Henry IV* less so. The home team from the Royal Lyceum gave a splendid *The Changeling* last year, and I look forward to their version of *Hogarth's Confessions of a Justified Sinner* this year.

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BUILDING SOCIETIES

FINANCIAL TIMES
SURVEY

Riding the crest of a wave as funds pour in

By SANDY McLACHLAN

The building society movement is currently riding the crest of a wave. Funds are coming into the movement at an unprecedented rate and are being lent out just about as quickly: building societies have always admitted that in modern times there has been an indefinable demand for home finance which they were not able to satisfy, but it is clear that even the societies themselves have been more than a little surprised at the demand for funds which the recent availability of money has triggered off.

Seen in perspective, the performance over the last couple of years is little short of staggering. In the 20 years from 1950 to 1969 the movement's lending for house purchase rose sedately, and with some fluctuations, from £270m. to £1,559m. In 1970 there was an uncharacteristic upward surge to within a whisker of £2,000m., and the estimated figure for 1971 of £2,500m. may well be exceeded if the movement keeps up its current momentum.

These figures are reflected in the increasing power of the building society movement in the financial field. In terms of total assets they are already clear in second place behind the life assurance movement, and on current performance they are catching up fast. The National Savings movement has been left well behind, as have the clearing banks.

The dynamic factor in this growth is of course the net inflow of funds to the movement. Back in 1969 building societies were struggling to maintain an average net inflow of £80m. a month to meet their estimated lending figure. So far this year the net monthly inflow figure from now. At the same time has ranged between £118m. and the financial power of the move-

ment means that it exercises a standards of new housing in the interest credited to depositors. While clearly highly delighted by this availability of funds, the growing case for tracing a relationship between private builders' Registration Council and the situation cautiously, as well as householding starts and the guarantee, which makes membership of the NHBRC (and the availability of mortgage finance, in a small measure the rapid upsurge in the inflow of funds is due to extraneous factors rather than to any long-term change in the inherent attraction of building society investment. Over the last couple of years the building societies have introduced a number of new schemes — SAYE, insurance linked and the like—but these have had a minimal effect on the overall cash intake.

Currently the high inflow can be attributed in part to the fact that building society rates are relatively attractive to the small saver, who has always been the backbone of the movement. But the unquantifiable effects of a dull stockmarket and uncertain investment outlook make the movement wary of sudden change in rates, since societies must be sitting on a certain amount of potentially "hot money." They have experienced rapid transitions between relative plenty and mortgage famine before.

New background

Leaving this question apart—it is treated elsewhere in this survey at greater length—the building societies are finding that size brings new considerations. They are operating against a new background: one where controversy exists about the adequacy of the current housing stock (in terms of quality as much as numbers) and what will be considered adequate say five years from now. At the same time

they are reaching the stage where they will play a part in shaping the housing market as well as financing it. Their very size ensures that this will happen without any conscious effort on their part, but more and more the movement is coming round to the view that building societies have a responsibility in this respect.

This becomes increasingly important as one looks forward. Quite apart from the trends in inflow the building societies will have the benefit of a continuously increasing flow of mortgage repayments. The figure should top the £1,000m. mark in the current year, and it may well have doubled by 1977, and be over £3,000m. by 1981—or 50 per cent more than the total 1970 lending figure.

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restricting building society at the same time it continues to bail the Derbyshire out by a merger with a bigger society

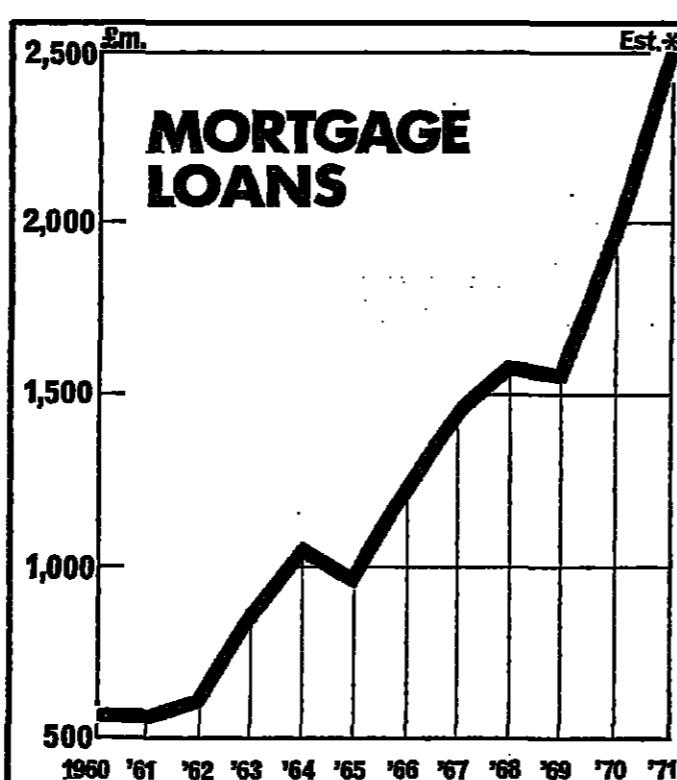
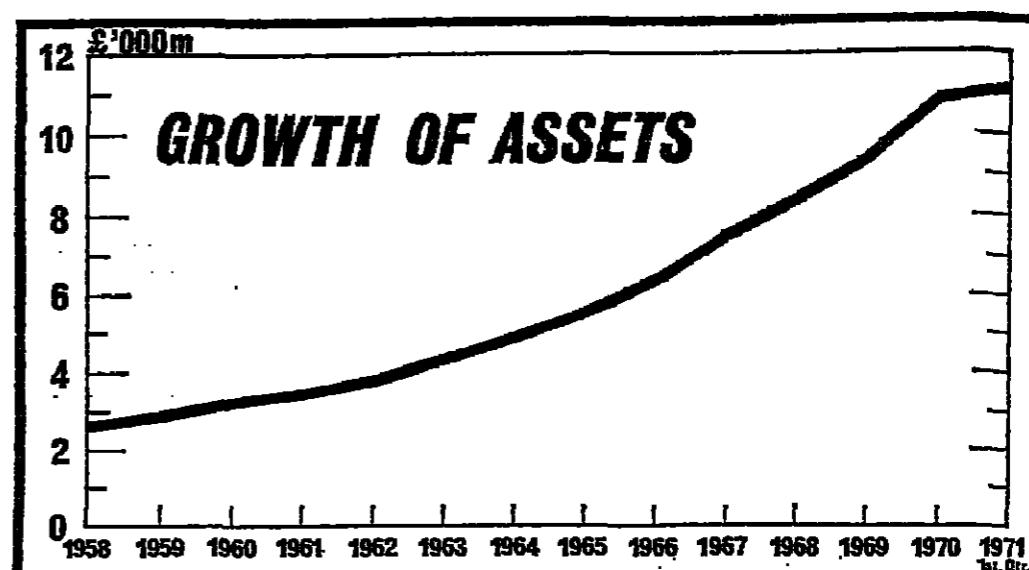
legislation, and partly because to attract funds from people—merger with a bigger society is ultra-conscious for example those who do not prove unnecessary.

The real success here was not in safeguarding the Derbyshire depositors: in the building society world this would have been done as a matter of course. Instead it was the rapid action which stopped the run and quickly restored the Derbyshire to an independent society trading normally again.

However, given the size of their total resources, even a small proportion of the building societies' money could make a big impact on the housing equation. Already there is some building society finance for the private housebuilder at rates of interest which he could not obtain elsewhere. The need for greater co-operation between the builder and the society is gradually being accepted, and with funds relatively plentiful the building societies are better able to help the housing society as well. The next step of co-operation with local authorities must surely come in time.

But while the building society movement is exploring its new responsibilities it is equally alive to its old ones. It is, after all, the depositors who provide the cash which building societies have to lend, and the investment package which they are offered is unique.

No one has ever fully explained the attraction of a building society investment. It is certainly appropriate for about as quickly as it had part they will come to play a large numbers of people, but started, and contingency plans the future housing pattern.



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BUILDING SOCIETIES III

Backing home ownership

By MICHAEL CASSELL

The pattern of housing in Britain is currently developing in a way which can only mean continued growth in the volume of business undertaken by the nation's building societies.

A vast amount of time, energy and money is spent each year by the construction industry in attempts to gauge the pattern of future demand for housing and, although their forecasts can be confounded by a multitude of factors, a general trend is discernible.

The Economic Development Committees for Building and Civil Engineering, which themselves have been known to change their minds quite frequently about prospects, suggested at the time of their last industry forecasts in March that private builders could hold some 60 per cent. of the total U.K. housing market by the end of this decade, compared with just over 48 per cent. last year.

The Committees see an annual rate of private house completions of between 215,000 and 245,000 units by 1974 alone, compared with just over 170,000 in 1970. But at the same time, they forecast a dramatic decline in the level of council house completions, from a peak of 203,000 in 1967 to only 140,000 by 1974.

Perhaps even more significant is the way the balance has actually shifted in recent months, although it can be most unwise to read too much at once into construction industry statistics which cover a relatively short space of time.

Finance, too, has played a major part in containing housing projects in the last few years. Money has been particularly tight—acutely so for the small man—but with the liquidity outlook now loosening up, contractors appear to be

HOUSEBUILDING IN BRITAIN

(monthly averages—'000 dwellings)

	STARTS		COMPLETIONS	
	Public	Total	Public	Total
1966	15.5	16.1	31.6	32.1
1967	17.8	19.5	37.3	33.7
1968	16.2	16.7	32.9	34.5
1969	14.7	13.9	28.6	30.6
1970	12.8	13.8	26.6	29.3
1971—January	7.9	12.6	20.4	27.1
February	10.6	12.4	23.0	23.1
March	11.5	15.7	27.1	31.9
April	14.6	16.5	31.1	28.7
May	13.3	16.5	29.8	27.6
June	11.3	16.8	30.2	29.1
1971—July	12.4	16.7	27.1	27.1

little happier to embark on house construction work.

They are also aware that mortgage funds have never been more available, a major factor in assessing the saleability of their product. The relevance of this last point cannot be too strongly emphasised and some very pertinent remarks on the subject were made last month by Mr. Leonard Williams, general manager of the National Building Society.

Mr. Williams told a House Builders Registration Council conference in London that in 1969 and 1970 there was a pronounced swing away from new house buying. The proportion of building society money going to new houses fell even at a time when funds were scarce, he stressed.

He described the situation as "alarming" and then went on to explain that the pattern of demand had not changed, the

little happier to embark on house construction work.

They are also aware that

that the new houses were not market for new homes would

depend upon the rate of demolition of older houses and

the industry should take steps to promote more effectively the

philosophy of urban renewal where it was clearly a better

solution than rehabilitation.

On one point, everyone

appears to be in agreement

There is a desperate need to

enlarge the nation's housing stock. The Government

has admitted that there are

about 1.5m. slum houses which

had to be cleared away to make

room for new development and

another 4m. homes which could

well go the same way without

urgent improvement work being

carried out.

Urban renewal

Britain's building societies are now in a better position than ever before to help people builders themselves like these make home ownership a reality; whether or not the new house market and that the housebuilders are prepared to adopt a to take risks to meet the "more competent and aggressive" marketing policy in beyond all doubt.

The movement and its image

By NORMAN GRIGGS, Secretary-General, The Building Societies Association

The public image of any institution is difficult to assess—particularly from the inside—but judging from Press criticism and such complaints as arrive in this Association's post bag, understanding of the way in which building societies work has improved immensely over the past decade.

Trouble on the public relations front blew up early in 1952 when money rates started to be used by the Government as an instrument of financial policy. This necessitated an increase in the building society investment rate from 2½ to 3 per cent. and a consequent increase to 4½ per cent. in the mortgage rate, which had been

static at 4 per cent. since 1945. Borrowers, who had largely ignored the small print in their mortgage deeds, suddenly discovered that they had entered into what seemed to be one-sided contracts which permitted their rate of interest to be raised after a short period of notice.

Since 1952 these rises continued steadily up to the current level of 8½ per cent., so there is little wonder that the public image of the societies suffered and that a giant exercise was needed to explain why institutions which borrowed short and lent long must, if they were to survive, keep the rates they paid and charged consistent with market conditions.

Explanation of the true position was not helped by the intervention of politicians who failed to understand why low building society rates could not go hand in hand with a plentiful supply of mortgage funds. Judging from the reaction to the last rise in April 1969, however, the battle seems to have been largely won and the reasonableness of the case established. If building society rates are kept below the market level, a mortgage famine sets in which not only affects prospective home buyers but also existing borrowers who wish to sell their properties.

Trustee status

The second way in which the societies' image was dented was through the activity, during the 1950's, of certain fringe societies which, working within the letter but not the spirit of the then building society legislation, offered high rates to investors to attract their funds, which they then used in speculative property deals. These mal-practices culminated in the crash of the State Building Society, which shocked the Government into tightening up the law and offering a reputable building societies a hallmark of respectability through trustee status. Membership of the Association started to mean more to the public and this was recently reinforced by events in Derby where, within hours of the crisis emerging, no less than £20m. was offered by other members of the Association to bolster the liquid resources of the society concerned.

It would be dangerous to become complacent, however, and there are one or two areas where criticism remains a hardy annual. The first of these relates to the valuation of a property which is the prerequisite of a building society loan. The borrower pays for this. Why is a sight of the report denied him?

The answer lies in the word "valuation," which does not imply in any way a full structural survey. The valuation of a £4,000 house costs £29, whereas a full survey to protect the purchaser might well exceed £30. Valuers are only prepared to be paid away, it could only be recouped in the mortgage rate work on the lower scale if the charged to borrowers.

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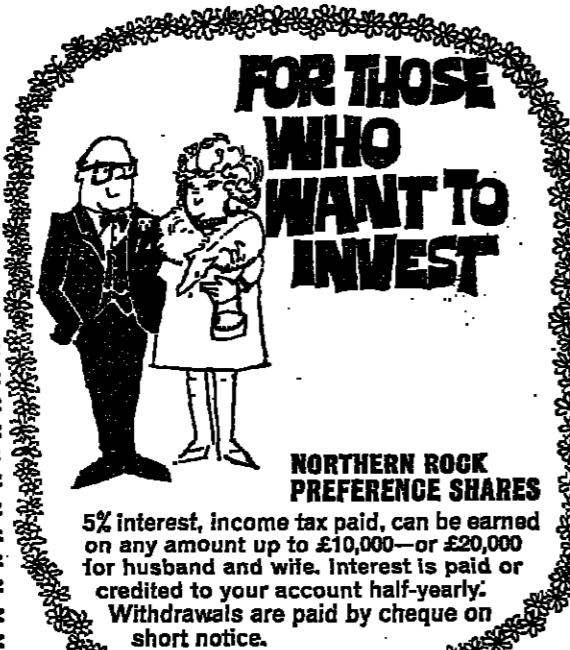
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BUILDING SOCIETIES IV

High prices are no deterrent

By MICHAEL CASSELL

House prices are currently rising at a rate which is calculated to send a shudder through the hardest of prospective home buyers. While existing owner occupiers can gain considerable satisfaction from the knowledge that their house stands as a sound investment in the face of continuing inflation, there is little comfort for those trying to break into the market for the first time.

But even with prices as high as they are, the queue of people anxious to obtain mortgages from building societies still find themselves hard pressed to meet demands made of them despite the fact that they are now lending at record levels. Against this background, the Building Societies Association said in July that an extra 600,000 borrowers could be accommodated this year, a rise of 100,000 on the 1970 figure. Total cash advances during the same period, according to the Association, could possibly rise by as much as £500m to reach a massive £2,500m.

All it can

So if the price prospects for first-time buyers seem bad while those for existing owners may appear to be discouraging, it is nevertheless apparent that the building society movement is doing everything it can to make house purchase a reality for as many people as possible.

Some people claim, however, that there is still a lot more which could be done to smooth the path to home ownership. A popular argument calls for a reduction of the mortgage interest rate but a closer examination of the situation shows that loans would not necessarily be within the reach of more people if this did happen.

The fact is that if the interest

compared with £5,206 at the

Housing stock

Why the high prices? A major factor must be the level of the nation's housing stock, which leaves much to be desired. In 1968 and 1970 it was found that there had been a considerable swing away from new house buying inquiries but this was simply because there were not sufficient new houses to go round.

In this situation, sellers' market is created which is hardly calculated to keep prices stable.

Equally important, of course, is the actual cost of building a house. The picture here is particularly black with material prices rising steadily by an average of 1 per cent each month and in some instances considerably more. Many people can tell of moving into a new house on a new estate and seeing later arrivals paying more for the same type of property within a matter of weeks.

It has also been suggested that the very presence of such a wealth of building society funds, ready for the prospective buyer, does nothing to harness rising house prices. Mr. Fuller Osborn, former chairman of the BSA, often resisted calls for 100 per cent mortgages and claimed such a move was inflationary.

In the same way, it has been said, the availability of funds for home loans has fed the increasing level of house prices and certainly done nothing to check the rise.

Faced with this depressing catalogue of factors which play their part in maintaining high price levels, it might seem surprising that so many people can take advantage of the opportunity to own their home. It is a popular misconception that to buy an average house, a person must have an annual salary of at least £2,000 to make the exercise feasible. The BSA has wasted no time in putting that particular myth down with figures showing that 43 per cent of all mortgages in 1970 went to

people earning less than £1,600 a year. The Housing Foundation has, in fact, calculated that £1,250 a year is often quite sufficient, with perhaps an extra £250 for people in the London area.

But whatever happens to house prices, and despite a few well publicised efforts to pass on the benefits of Selective Employment Tax reduction, there is no reason why the sharply climbing price graph should level out, the number of people wanting their own homes seems certain to grow equally fast.

The Housing Foundation itself has estimated that there are over 1m. tenants in England and Wales who could afford to buy a house, many of whom thought it impossible.

The continuing availability of funds and higher construction activity on the part of the builders promises to inject further buoyancy into the housing market. For most people a prime objective in life is to hold the key to their own home, high prices or not.

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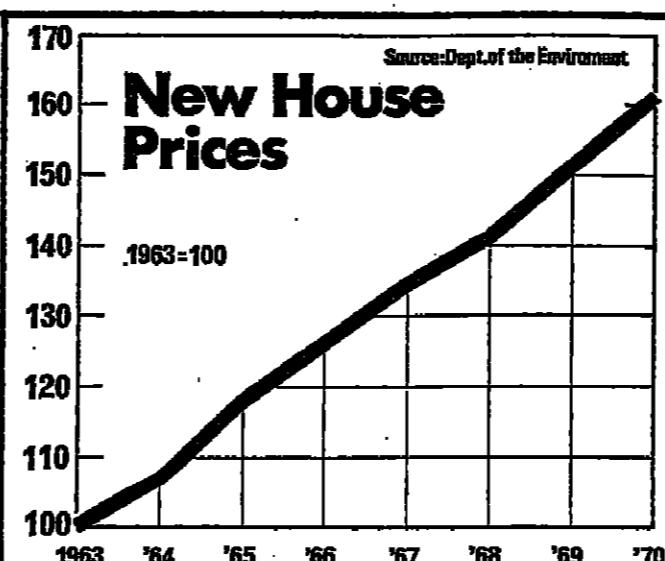
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It has also been suggested that the very presence of such a wealth of building society funds, ready for the prospective buyer, does nothing to harness rising house prices. Mr. Fuller Osborn, former chairman of the BSA, often resisted calls for 100 per cent mortgages and claimed such a move was inflationary.

In the same way, it has been said, the availability of funds for home loans has fed the increasing level of house prices and certainly done nothing to check the rise.

Faced with this depressing catalogue of factors which play their part in maintaining high price levels, it might seem surprising that so many people can take advantage of the opportunity to own their home. It is a popular misconception that to buy an average house, a person must have an annual salary of at least £2,000 to make the exercise feasible. The BSA has wasted no time in putting that particular myth down with figures showing that 43 per cent of all mortgages in 1970 went to

people earning less than £1,600 a year. The Housing Foundation has, in fact, calculated that £1,250 a year is often quite sufficient, with perhaps an extra £250 for people in the London area.

But whatever happens to house prices, and despite a few well publicised efforts to pass on the benefits of Selective Employment Tax reduction, there is no reason why the sharply climbing price graph should level out, the number of people wanting their own homes seems certain to grow equally fast.

The continuing availability of funds and higher construction activity on the part of the builders promises to inject further buoyancy into the housing market. For most people a prime objective in life is to hold the key to their own home, high prices or not.

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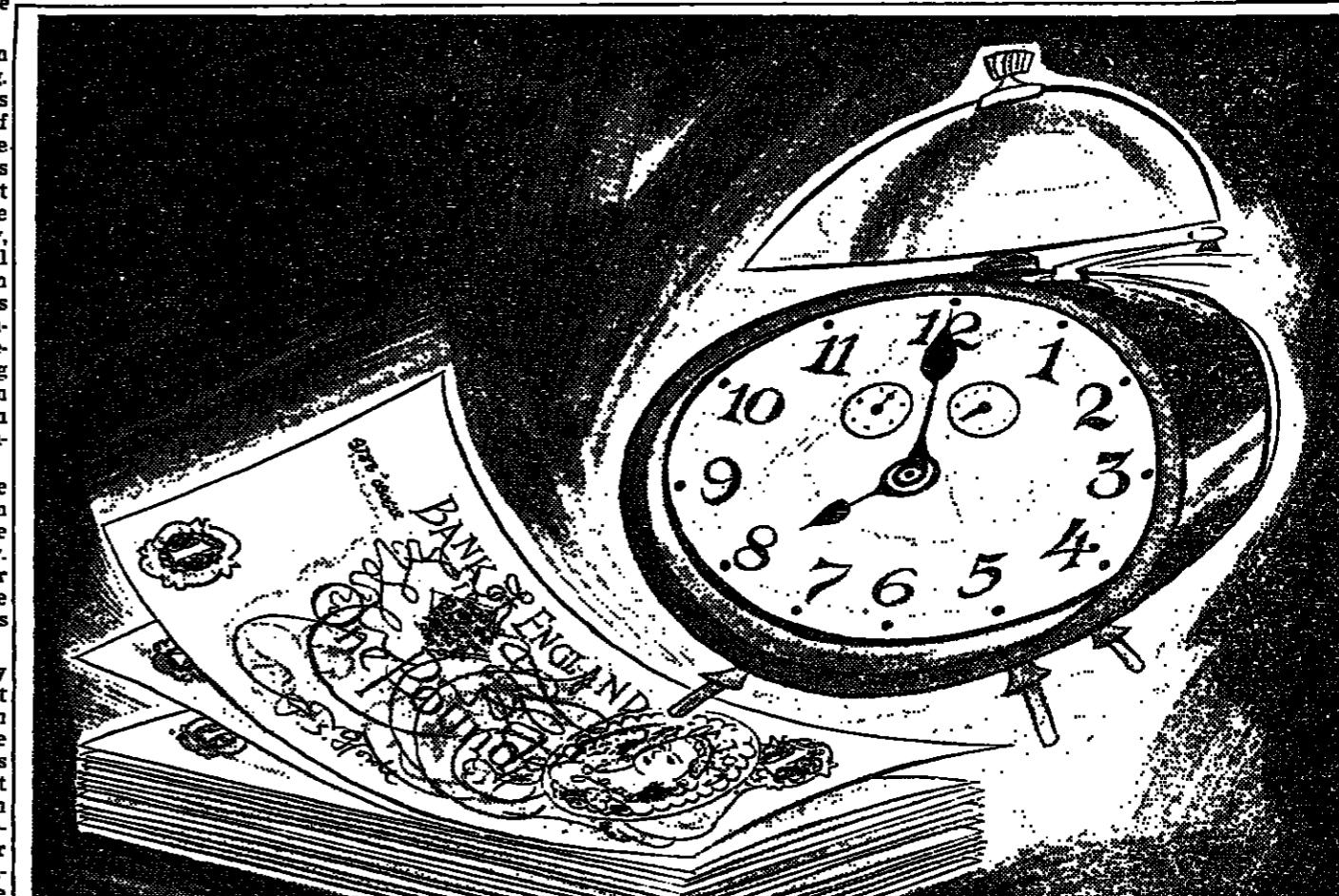
2, Wood Street, Cheapside, E.C.2 - 41, Golders Green Road, N.W.11

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9/72

Agents throughout the country.

Branches in London (38 Park Lane, 29-30 High Holborn and 877 Finchley Road, Golders Green), Aberdeen, Ayr, Bangor, Barnstaple, Birmingham, Blackpool, Bournemouth, Bradford, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Cambridge, Cardiff, Croydon, Dumfries, Dundee, Eastbourne, Edinburgh, Folkestone, Glasgow, Guildford, Hamley, Hereford, Horsham, Howe, Hull, Ilford, Inverness, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Loughborough, Middlesbrough, Manchester, Middlewich, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, North Shields, Norwich, Nottingham, Nuneaton, Oxford, Paignton, Plymouth, Portsmouth, St. Annes-on-Sea, Sheffield, Shrewsbury, Swansea, Tavistock, Tonbridge, Torquay, Truro, Weston-super-Mare, Worthing, Wrexham.

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9/72

COMPANY NEWS + COMMENT

John Peters record—2% extra & scrip

REPORTING the foreshadowed record profits for the year to March 31, 1971, the directors of John Peters (Furnishing Stores) are raising the dividend by 2 per cent to 19 per cent with a final recommendation of 15 per cent.

They also propose making a one-for-five scrip issue and expect, assuming trading conditions continue as at present, to maintain 19 per cent next year on the enlarged capital.

Following the halfway rise from £252,097 to £247,204, the year's pre-tax profit shows an advance from £783,538 to £940,690, after a provision of £66,839 (£31,577) for an increase in the deferred profit reserve. The previous record profit was the £830,350 of 1968-69.

The group has no provision for deferred profit carried forward into future years of £543,933 against £447,140 last year.

Mr. Manny Cussins, chairman, has waived his entitlement to both interim and final dividends. It has been agreed with the Inland Revenue that the company ceased to be a close company within the provisions of the Finance Act, 1965 on April 11, 1967.

1967-71 1968-70

Profit £107,289 51,112

Pre-tax profit 56,578 31,577

UK tax 28,319 22,964

Sub. Prof. div. 11,608 11,008

Ord. dividends 297,233 250,710

Forward 1,397,433 1,445,793

See Lex

Gripperrods lifts total by 10%

A FINAL dividend of 30 per cent by Gripperrods Holdings effectively raises the total from 25 to 35 per cent for the year to April 30, 1971.

Group profit advanced from £157,560 to £232,326 after a first half increase from £90,669 to £108,338.

The year's net figure was £10,408,886 compared with £105,840 after tax of £10,360 (£51,735). The company manufactures Gripperon "Tackless" and "Golden Gripper" carpet installation grippers and edging devices.

• **Comment**

Gripperrods has pushed ahead still in the second half of 1970-71 with profits up 20 per cent from some rounding up in March via decimalisation, the group has continued to keep prices static. This speaks volumes for a normal office again a sales rise of 26 per cent, given two major wage awards plus inflation generally, and a static performance from the engineering subsidiary (16 per cent of total profits). Gripperrods reckons its pricing policy is now having a noticeable impact on market shares, and that is coinciding with a better carpet trend. First quarter 1971 manufacturers' sales are 6 per cent higher in volume (17 per cent in value). At 53p a pce of 8.9 slips to 8.3 annualising the second half 1970-71 performance.

INDEX TO COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS

COMPANY	Page	Col.	COMPANY	Page	Col.
Abercom	24	4	Lotus	16	3
Anal. Roadstone	24	6	Loyds Retailers	24	2
Bellair	16	1	Mason Scott	24	2
Benford Concrete	16	4	Peak Winch	24	1
Douglas (Robert M.)	16	2	Peters (John)	16	1
Gripperrods	16	1	Relyon P.B.W.S.	16	4
Hammond (L.)	24	5	S.E.T.T.	16	2
Hazel (Quinton)	24	1	Scigwood (Robert)	16	3
Kodak	24	4	Venesta	16	4
Les (John J.)	24	3	Williamson Tea	16	8

SEET profit £54,775: no dividend

THE SHARP profit reduction indicated last April by Scottish English and European Textiles turns out to be from £307,700 to £54,775 at the pre-tax level for the year to April 30, 1971.

There is no dividend, against a total of 12½ per cent for the previous year, but the directors hope to recommend the second half of the year for the public sector), the shares are unlikely to go much higher.

multiple. But for inflation taking a heavy toll of the group's recent high proportion of fixed production costs, the contractor group's profits would have been even higher with all the other divisions moving well ahead. Here the group was able to pass on price increases fairly rapidly. In the first five months of the current year, the group's plant hire and raw material divisions have continued well with the volume of work up on a year ago. Against this, however, the engineering side is still taking tools dull and uninteresting, and the second division is also failing to turn over (for the public sector), the shares are unlikely to go much higher.

They report that trading in the first quarter and prospects for the rest of the period indicate results for 1971-72 will be significantly better than for the year just ended.

1970-71 1969-70

Trading profit 162,184 346,852

Investment income 45,451 27,148

Management expenses 54,775 37,708

Interest 19,782 140,731

Dividends 25,012 33,592

Attributions 10,998 12,000

Profit 40,431 240,431

See Lex

Lotus expects to top £1½m.

FOOTWEAR manufacturers Lotus expects a group profit, before tax, of over £500,000 for 1971, which would compare with £240,000 for last year.

Reporting a substantial increase from £267,000 to £229,000 in the first half, the directors say that the second half will be comparable to last year's £273,000.

An interim dividend of 3½ per cent is declared. For the previous year there was a single payment of 5 per cent.

Sales of branded footwear have increased "substantially". Factory production has been maintained at a high level, and orders on hand are satisfactory. There has also been an improvement in trading of the retail subsidiary.

1970-71 1969-70

Group turnover 6,931 6,854

Trading surplus 338 321

Interest payable 52 52

Profit 229 227

Dividends 104 104

Preference dividend 13 13

Ordinary dividend 47 47

Retained 63 62

See Lex

• **Comment**

Second half pre-tax profits have declined more rapidly for SEET, and the full year comes out 82 per cent lower and much worse than envisaged a year ago. Turnover fell by about 8 per cent, net exports and imports dropping to 33 per cent from 40 per cent of the total. But a slight change of fortune is expected for 1971-72. One reason for the optimism rests with fashion's recent attachment to flannel and tartan; another stems from savings at the Harris Tweed division, where the labour force has been reduced, resulting in greater productivity. Hopes are that the forecast dividend of 4 per cent will be covered, implying prospective pre-tax profits of £500,000. That would drop an historic p/e of 11p from 44 to a nearer 13.7.

Robert M. Douglas on target

AS FORESHADOWED, Robert M. Douglas (Contractors) is maintaining its dividend total at 20 per cent for the year to March 31, 1971, with an unchanged 15 per cent final. Holders of the restricted Ordinary again received their 1 per cent payment.

After being down from £613,000 to £403,000 in the first six months, the pre-tax group profit shows an improvement over the full year from £89,451 to £1,042,529. Directors had indicated a satisfactory level fully adequate to maintain the distribution.

1970-71 1969-70

Trading profit 1,572,311 1,514,236

Pre-tax profit 1,042,529 987,900

Net profit 602,723 513,347

General Reserve 200,000 149,000

Dividends 551,545 525,029

Forward 1,443,223 1,255,739

See Lex

• **Comment**

In spite of having lost sales—especially to the small order book—during the 6 weeks' postal strike, Lotus has more than trebled interim pre-tax profits and profit margins compared with the depressed first-half of 1970. Although volume sales have remained virtually static, this hides a marked (and continuing) trend away from unbranded and towards the more profitable own brand shoes. So with strong order books—especially for own brands—and the probability of a recovery in the retail trading subsidiary, the omens look healthy. On the forecast profit of just over £500,000 (the group hopes to double this over the next five years) giving earnings of 5½p a share against 2½p in 1970, the shares at a new 1971 high of 50p look attractive on a prospective p/e of just over 10.

1970-71 1969-70

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Dividends 551,545 525,029

Forward 1,443,223 1,255,739

See Lex

• **Comment**

Although interim figures are not usually much of a guide to a contractor's progress—especially when profits are taken on contract completion—Robert M. Douglas' annual profit advance of 5½ per cent before tax pleased the market after the interim fall of 35 per cent. In any event the shares rose to a new 1971 high of 8½p when a share for the current year.

It was believed that the worst was over for the year to March 31, 1971, as the market had reacted to the forecast of a 7½ per cent interim dividend. For the year to March 31, 1971, the forecast of 22½ per cent was revised down to 20 per cent.

Prospects for the full year to March 31, 1971, were £245,000.

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S COMPANY NEWS

Take-over bids and mergers

One of the two major situations dominating the bids and deals scene for many weeks' past has been resolved. By actively acquiring Bovril shares in the market, Cavenham has won its fight for control and Rowntree Mackintosh has allowed its lower offer, which was approved by the Bovril Board, to lapse. Cavenham's cash alternative offer will not be extended beyond the closing date of August 31.

Meanwhile, the struggle for Truman Hanbury Buxton continues as grim as ever. Watney's further increased terms failed to gain the unanimous support of the Truman directors who continued to back the Grand Metropolitan Hotels' bid by a five-to-four majority. Since then GMH has topped-up its offer by 15p a share cash to bring the value in line with the recent average price paid for shares in the market.

Behind-the-scenes activity is still intense. The dissenting Truman directors have circulated shareholders stating their reasons for supporting the Watney bid and the Prudential Assurance has disposed of half its 5 per cent. holding to Watney and the remaining half to GMH. Latest estimates suggest Watney can call on 40 per cent. of the Truman equity and GMH between 35 and 37½ per cent.

Shortly after making the offer for John Myers unconditional, United Drapery Stores has set its sights on A. and S. Henry, offering shares and cash which value the latter at about £6.5m. Certain conditions are attached to the offer.

Sterling Guarantee has agreed terms for the acquisition of Wharf Holdings. Similarly, Sovereign Securities has accepted an offer from Town and City Properties, while the Board of Eldon R. Gorst recommends shareholders to accept a cash offer of 155p a share from Christian Salvesen. Lewis and Peat's approach to John Martin of London also carries a seal of consent.

No sooner had Constellation Investments recommended a bid from Jessel Securities when it agreed better terms with Hemdale, which Jessel also intends to accept, or procure acceptance, in respect of a minimum of 800,000 Ordinary shares and 500,000 "A" shares. By raising its terms considerably, Drakes finally won the support of the Norvic Board.

Company bid for	Value of bid per share £	Market price £	Price before bid	Value (£m's) k	Final Ac'tee date	Company bid for	Value of bid per share £	Market price £	Price before bid	Value (£m's) k	Final Ac'tee date
Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated											
Avimo	132	122	133	1.8	Mid. Seafire	10/9	Twyfords	109	117	86	10.2
Baker (J. C.)	500	554	51	0.44	Mr. A. J. Strait	—	Vaal Reefs	—	530	570	73.8
Barber Textile	131	13	12	0.7	Spirrels Grp.	9/8	Western Reefs	—	258	273	—
Barclays Bk. DCO	561	549	450	97.7	West Indies Sugar	—	Yangtze Plant	15*	15	16	0.3
Bartels Bros.	82	66	82	1.5	Barclays Bk.	—	Yangtze Reefs	234	227	218	0.3
Bovril	458	464	395	14.1	Bristol St. Grp.	31/8	Barrett & Par-	—	—	—	—
Br. & For. Gen.	—	—	—	—	Carnival Fds.	—	Tal & Lyle	74	70	32	0.4
Sec. Inv. Tst.	82	86	73	8.3	Cedar Inv. Tst.	—	West. Inds. Inds.	141	13	114	1.1
Broadway Fis. Tst.	55*	54	44	2.0	Lia. Crys. Secs.	—	West. Inds. Wsld.	111	69	414	3.5
City Wall Propa.	177	173	192	2.0	Bank Grp.	—	Westminster Tst.	84	75	57	0.1
Collett (J.)	61*	63	64	1.7	Concentric	23/8	Land Secs. Inv.	—	245	195	9.7
Constable Hart	32*	35	28	0.9	Edgar Invest.	—	Slater Walker	—	—	—	—
Constellation Inv.	206	194	19	0.4	Hemdale	—	Wigham-Richson	22*	—	—	—
Constellation "A"	206	194	19	0.4	Hemdale	—	Yates	—	—	—	—
Conway Stewart	221*	211	20	0.9	Hillman Bedlow	—	Yates Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Cunard	207	197	157	2.4	Trafalgar's Kt.	24/8	Property	—	—	—	—
Dares Estates	8*	9	11	0.2	Freshwtr. Grp.	23/8	Property	—	—	—	—
Delta Controls	62	65	48	1.5	Grand Met.	—	Property	—	—	—	—
E. Kilbore	73*	70	75	1.2	Grand Met.	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Dairy Farmers	—	—	—	—	Hotels	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Edgar Invest.	190	211	113	10.0	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Eldon (R.) Gorst	155*	150	125	0.9	Christ's Sivs.	27/8	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Fleming (A. B.)	72	70	49	5.8	Creda Int.	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Fordtarn	142	140	134	2.4	Fosseco Minsep	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
G. & J. (A. & S.)	59*	55	55	0.5	G. & J. (A. & S.)	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Haynes F'd Elliott	53*	50	50	0.5	H. B. Jackson	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Hollis Textile	33*	33	35	0.5	H. B. Jackson	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Marlin (J.)	28	27	25	1.1	Mr. A. Lawson	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Marawan (Java)	—	—	—	—	Lewis & Peat	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Rubber	111d	19	10	0.05	Cliff & Co.	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Seafield Amul. Rbr	160*	161	160	0.05	BTR Leyland	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Settle Speakman	282d	281	267	1.0d	Mount Seas.	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Shaw & Tidmarsh	51	50	50	0.5	Mr. L. Levy	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Sovereign Secs.	64	66	68	0.5	Drakes	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Tiffilton Ord.	225*	235	207	5.7	Rothschild Inv.	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Tiffilton "A"	210*	205	182	5.7	Ts. Regis Ppr.	16/8	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Truman Hanbury	452*	459	254	49.1	Grand Met.	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Truman Hanbury	433	459	344	47.0	Hotels	23/8	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—
Truman Hanbury	433	459	344	47.0	Waitey Mann	23/8	Horizon Inv. &	—	—	—	—

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Constellation "A"	206	194	19	0.4	Hemdale	—	Yates	—	—	—	—
Conway Stewart	221*	211	20	0.9	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Cunard	207	197	157	2.4	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Dares Estates	8*	9	11	0.2	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Delta Controls	62	65	48	1.5	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
E. Kilbore	73*	70	75	1.2	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Dairy Farmers	—	—	—	—	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Edgar Invest.	190	211	113	10.0	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
Eldon (R.) Gorst	155*	150	125	0.9	Horizon Inv. &	—	Property	—	—	—	—
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WALL STREET + OVERSEAS MARKETS + LATEST PRICES

Cautious but reaction halted

BY OUR WALL STREET CORRESPONDENT

THE RECENT REACTION, after the sharp two day advance, was halted on Wall Street to-day, when a slightly firmer tendency developed in further reduced activity.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 0.14 to 880.51, for a rise of 24.59, the All Common Index, at 854.28, was up 10 cents on the day, and 31.50 on the week.

Volume further decreased 2.3m. shares to 139.0m., and had fallen steadily from the all-time record of 31.7m. of last week.

Caution ahead of foreign currency market openings on Monday, and questions on the short-term dimensions of President Nixon's new economic policies seemed to offset bullish U.S. economic indicators released during the day.

The economic indicators included the report that the rise in the Consumer Price Index slowed in July, compared with June. Also, second quarter Gross National Product figures were revised upward.

Among "Glamours," IBM gained \$2 to \$309, but Polaroid lost \$1, to \$107. Disney added \$1, at \$107.

General Motors were up \$1, to \$63, Ford \$1 to \$67, and Chrysler \$1 to \$31.

Oils were mixed.

Marcor fell \$1 to \$33; in second quarter earnings. Reynolds Gold, up 50c, to \$30.50, and Dow Chemicals, up 50c, to \$101.50, were \$1 to \$309.

Sears were up \$1 to \$912—Allstate Insurance, which is owned by Sears, reported first-half earnings of 39 (33) cents per share.

Most Airlines improved. KLM added \$1, to \$34. Pan Am \$1 to \$114 and UAL \$1 to \$37.

Sony rallied \$1 to \$161. Super scope firm \$1 to \$175, it plans to boost its prices to compensate for the 10 per cent tax on Sony imports it distributes.

Foreign stocks generally lower. International Oils weak.

STOCKHOLM—Well maintained. BRUSSELS—Easier on currency uncertainties.

Small gains predominated in Foreign Stocks.

GERMANY—Markets were resilient, with selective buying following initial uncertainty, major Chemicals and Electricals were higher. Banks and Volkswagen also were firm after announcing 1972 price increases.

AMSTERDAM—Most internationals recovered. Shipments and Plantations edged higher, but local industrials predominantly lower. Banks eased. Investment Funds recovered slightly. Insurances further declined.

State Loans mixed.

SWITZERLAND—Slight recovery in local dealings. Financials narrowly irregular. State Bonds maintained.

Dollars stocks and Dutch internationals narrowly mixed. Germans generally maintained.

OSLO—Banks, Industrials and Shipments barely steady. VIENNA—Very hesitant.

COPENHAGEN—Steady in fairly active trading.

TOKYO—The market made a sharp recovery, after four days of heavy decline. Volume 230m. (\$30m.) shares.

The upturn was led by Construction, Dredgings, Electricals, and Insurances.

Okumuragumi were up Yen 40, Wakachiku Construction Yen 34, Daito Kogyo Yen 35.

Oils were lower, however, following reports of possible organisation of petroleum exporting countries (OPEC) plans to raise crude oil prices in case of foreign currency exchange rate adjustments.

AUSTRALIA—Mines continued to ease with most heavyweights registering year lows during the rally. Oil also fell but industrials rallied slightly.

WMC came back 7 cents to \$3.04 on the industrial dispute at the Kambalda Mine. Peko Wallsend shed 8 cents to \$3.04. Utah dropped 20 cents to \$3.25, but Boggabrivale rose 10 cents to \$2.75.

Queensland Mines fell 5 cents to \$4.90 and Kathleen Investments lost 35 cents to \$3.55. Whim Creek added 5 cents at \$4.50.

JOHANNESBURG—"Buffels" dropped 55 cents to R255 on a probable dividend cut. Other Golds were mixed. Platinums higher. Financial Minings drifted

lower.

IND DIVIDEND YIELD p.c.

Aug. 13 Aug. 6 Aug. 5

3.74 3.75 4.40

N.Y. SE ALL COMMON INDEX

Dec. 31, 1968=50.

1971 Pct. Thru. Wed. Tues. Mon.

High 71.98 232.78 550.82 128.80 —

Low 67.72 204.31 391.77 112.55 11.29

Close 68.32 221.82 551.17 112.55 11.29

Up 1.41 1.41 1.41 1.41 1.41

Div. Yield 5.01 6.21 7.08

STOCK AND BOND YIELDS

Aug. 18 Aug. 11 Aug. 19 1970

Industrial div. yield 1.91 2.04 2.98

Price-earning ratio 15.24 17.67 15.50

Long-term Govt. Bds. 5.01 5.21 5.45

Corporate Bds. 7.00 7.21 7.50

10-year U.S. Govt. 7.00 7.21 7.50

10-year Corporate 7.00 7.21 7.50

10-year Industrial 7.00 7.21 7.50

10-year Utility 7.00 7.21 7.50

10-year Bond 7.00 7.21 7.50

10-year Gold Bond 7.00 7



Reactions to U.S. economic measures

Tokyo plays for time—but business fears chaos if no speedy action

Schweitzer urges joint action soon

BY AL CULLISON

THE FAILURE of the EEC Finance Ministers to agree on a joint programme to face the present international monetary crisis and their compromise decision to reopen Europe's foreign exchange markets on Monday has considerably gratified the Japanese Government and appalled Japan's medium and small-scale companies.

Both of these highly conflicting reactions in Japan were evidently based on short-range viewpoints. Government officials to-day expressed the feeling that the Brussels breakdown provides them with much needed time just when they require it to develop their own solution to President Nixon's dollar-saving policies.

This is the strongest statement made publicly for years by M. Schweitzer. He spent this morning on the telephone to Europe, and at a meeting of the Fund directors, called to consider the American position, he left little doubt that he regards the lack of concerted action as grave.

Disharmony evident

In a cable sent by him to all governors of the Fund, he argued against "piecemeal approaches to change," which, though he mentioned "no particular approach or country, may be taken as referring to the disharmony evident among the countries of the European Community. M. Schweitzer is pressing for concerted action to determine "appropriate exchange rates and other measures."

From this cable, and from conversations with Fund officials, the IMF position is now emerging, whose main elements are as follows:

1—Independent action by various countries is potentially disastrous. While it is important to get the financial markets open, the prospect of four or five different systems being in operation in Europe on Monday is serious. The implications of M. Schweitzer's cable are that such disorder might "seriously disrupt trade" and undermine the system which has worked for the past 25 years.

2—The Fund recognises that there must be exchange rate changes, and that "other measures" are also needed. Among these, the Fund now definitely favours a widening of the bands around parity. "Crawling pegs" are out, but bands of 2 or 3 per cent might well be helpful.

3—The Fund wants a return to dollar convertibility, and believes that this can be arranged without either going back to the old system, or inventing some new reserve asset. A combined use of gold, Special Drawing Rights, and foreign exchange drawings on the Fund could be the basis for the U.S. to re-establish convertibility.

4—Given the failure to reach agreement in Europe, the earlier a high-level international meeting can be arranged the better. From the Fund's point of view, a Group of Ten ministerial meeting in Washington soon, and early next week, would be desirable. I understand that there are no plans for such a meeting, or indeed for a meeting anywhere as soon as that. There does not appear to be much hope that a meeting can take place before the markets are due to reopen, though the position is obviously still fluid.

The Board of directors of the IMF met this morning to consider the American position, and a formal statement noting the dollar float and de facto devaluation was issued.

Meanwhile, the American position has become clearer as a result of a briefing given by Mr. Paul Volcker, Under Secretary at the Treasury.

The U.S. it appears, is quite prepared to re-establish dollar convertibility and to do so soon, but is most unlikely to go back to the former system of buying dollars from foreign central banks for gold at \$35 per ounce. Nevertheless, the dollar float could end and convertibility be re-established before the end of the year, if other countries do their part.

De-emphasise gold

The U.S. absolutely wants to do nothing to emphasise the importance of gold. It will not consider the official \$35 an ounce price, or change the par value of the dollar. Its intention is to emphasise to continue de-emphasising the importance of gold.

Given this, other countries must revalue their currencies against the dollar, must accept a greater share of the global defence costs, and must modify trade practices considered by the U.S. to be "unfair." To get them to take these actions, and thus assure that the American balance of payments will not be in chronic deficit, the U.S. will use the float and the 10 per cent import surcharge as its main weapons. Either or both of these can be returned to store if the rest of the world takes satisfactory action.

Sit tight

Where the U.S. and the IMF appear to be in agreement is that the new system that will (hopefully) evolve, will contain greater flexibility, and again the favoured mechanism is a wider margin around par values. The American proposal is for a widening to 3 per cent, each side of par. The U.S. acknowledges that other countries are facing "difficult" and "painful" decisions because of America's unilateral moves, but that these decisions have to be taken, and the U.S. will sit tight and use the surcharge to "protect" itself until they are taken.

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Cancelled orders

Japan's manufacturers and exporters of less than major financial standing see the situation in the same way. Not only is the American market—with day-by-day cancellations of orders for goods in the warehouses or already aboard ship—have panicked businessmen, who can scarcely wait for the dust to settle. To this sector of Japanese opinion a Yen revaluation would now be acceptable, since their priority is to get goods moving again.

Continued disruptions in the Japanese economy caused by the monetary uncertainties of the moment are expected to begin to affect the larger Japanese corporations next week. Prominent and powerful executives of Japan's former "Zabatsu" giants have elicited from the Sato Government a promise that Cabinet Ministers involved in economic affairs will definitely meet on Tuesday to work out a short-term financial policy in line with developments in western Europe.

The Japanese Government has contended that it is following the safest course of action under the circumstances by steadfastly refusing to revalue the yen and by keeping the foreign exchange markets open. "Wait and watch" is an old and often successful Japanese formula for dealing dangerous situations.

But Japan has not got much time left. A basic policy for meeting the situation will be imperative if, as expected, there are official bilateral negotiations with the U.S. later next week or early the following week. They

may be expecting too much, but to avoid such a meeting was the Japanese would like the talks to develop into multilateral ones and probably will make this their condition for intense discussions of yen revaluation.

As the Finance Ministry experts view the situation, Japan would stand a much better chance of holding off anything but a viewing revaluation as the minimum yen revaluation if they insist on multilateral currency of some sort seems unlikely over the next few days.

But it cannot be denied that the

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Mr. Robert Keith to be unions Chief Registrar

BY ELSBETH GANGUIN

MR. ROBERT Farquharson, at present an Under-Secretary in the Department of Employment, is to be the Chief Registrar of Trade Unions and Employers' Associations under the Industrial Relations Act 1971. The Chief Registrar's job will, therefore, be the maintenance of a register, ensuring that the rules of those registered organisations conform to the standards set out in the Act, protecting the rights of trade union members, and to see that registered trade unions and employers' associations are properly administered.

It is expected that his new office will come into operation on October 1. There will be three assistant Registrars, one for England, one for Scotland and one for Wales.

A fundamental feature of the Industrial Relations Act is that only workers' and employers' organisations which register with the Registrar will have certain privileges and immunities under cancellation of the registration of a trade union or employers' association.

The Registrar will have powers to investigate complaints concerning the conduct of registered organisations, to try to reach a settlement, and to take unresoled cases to the Industrial Court or to an industrial tribunal for adjudication.

He will also have power to apply to the Industrial Court for TUC has already urged the trade

privileges and immunities under cancellation of the registration of a trade union or employers' association.

Having been transferred on to it.

THE BURTON Group is to open the first four of its chain of shops specialising in casual wear for the five-to-15-year age group in the London area before the end of the month.

The new chain is to be called "Orange Hand" and the first shop will be in Golders Green, Watford, West Ealing and Kingston.

This will be followed by three more to be opened in Manchester, Croydon and Wembley by the autumn.

The development represents the group's bid to move into the fast-growing male teenage fashion market and to rely less on Burton's traditional dark-suited made-to-measure image.

£70m. spent annually on boys' wear, less than 15 per cent.

goes on school clothing. The group sees the chain as operating in a potential market worth at

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Burton to open boys' shops soon

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Overseas News



China will not join UN with Taiwan

HONG KONG, August 20. CHINA served notice to-day that it would not join the United Nations if the Taiwan Government were represented in any way on the world body. Uncompromising rejection of any formula that would keep Taiwan in the UN should Peking be admitted came in a Chinese Foreign Ministry statement.

It commented on an American request for inclusion of the question of Chinese representation on the agenda of the forthcoming general assembly session.

The Ministry statement, issued yesterday and reported by the New China News Agency, attacked the U.S. search for a formula that would permit both the Peking and Taipei governments to have seats at the UN. It said: "The Chinese Government solemnly declares: the Chinese people and government firmly oppose two Chinas; one China, Taiwan, and similar absurdities; firmly, it poses the fallacy that 'the status of Taiwan remains to be determined'; and firmly opposes the scheme of creating an independent Taiwan."

"Should a similar situation occur in the United Nations, the government of the People's Republic of China will absolutely do nothing to do with the United Nations," it said.

"This just stand of the Chinese government is unshakable. No one can stand between the two Chinas. One has one Taiwan or the like shed by anyone at any time in any form will ever succeed. (Taiwan President) Chiang Kai-Shek clique must be expelled in the United Nations and all organs and all the legitimate rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations must be completely restored," it d.

The statement was China's first official reaction to the U.S. two Chinas" policy in the United Nations.

N BRIEF

U.S. ARMY announced yesterday that Lieut. William Ley's life sentence for his part in the My Lai massacre in Vietnam has been cut to 20 years out of a legal review in which General Minor will have the last word. The reduction could make him eligible for parole in 61 years.

OLLAND'S Baltic sea port of Riga, the scene of December's workers' riots, saw more trouble in the second half of May. According to the Communist monthly, Zycie Part II, latest edition said the ship is lived through a "short and rapidly solved conflict" concerning the division of premium rents.

WEST GERMANY Chancellor, Mr. Brandt, said yesterday the power ambassadorial talks Berlin were progressing faster than expected. They had been agreed to one month ago. He said in a television interview, he could not rule out the possibility that the talks would end Monday when the two sides next sit down together.

RENT and British governments have agreed to a planned flight to South America by the two British superpowers.

Details of the flight, the need for the needle-nosed airliner to September 14 to 17, will be next Monday by the two planes building the plane.

WEST PAKISTAN's outlawed anti-League chief, Sheikh Nur Rahman, has chosen his defender in his trial on charges of treason, the Pakistani government announced yesterday. His secret trial began on 1st at an undisclosed place in West Pakistan, and he was charged with "waging war against Pakistan" and other acts in connection with the war that broke out in East Pakistan March 25.

Right-wing revolt shakes Torres régime in Bolivia

BY HUGH O'SHAUGHNESSY, LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

A RADIO BROADCAST by rebel army leaders in the interior city of Santa Cruz to-night proclaims Col. Hugo Banzer President of Bolivia and said they were mustering their forces for a march on the capital of La Paz. But Left-wing President Juan Torres' Government vowed to crush the Right-wing rebellion with all force necessary, and which had in the past been the scene of major violence involving workers.

General Jaime Mendieta, commander of the seventh army division based in Cochabamba, to-day came out in open support of the revolt with a signed statement in which he issued "a call to arms against those who are trying to destroy the moral and civil values of the Bolivian people."

The Government suspended air and telephone communications to-night between La Paz, Santa Cruz and Cochabamba, second city of Bolivia, which was reported in rebel hands. The soldier proclaimed President to-night, Colonel Hugo Banzer, a former head of Bolivia's military academy. He was one of 30 people arrested in Santa Cruz last night. Just before the riots

Observers pointed out that any

LA PAZ, August 20.

began, and earlier reports said he was being flown to La Paz for interrogation. But his whereabouts were not clear to-night and it was not known if he was still held by the authorities.

Army Commander General Hugo Roque Terran to-night pledged his support for President Torres and called on his men to stay loyal. He asked them to fight together to wipe out the common enemies and pledged that all necessary force will be used to crush the rebellion.

Miners' leaders to-night called an indefinite general strike and ordered armed miners' brigades to muster and fight for President Torres. Large crowds of miners gathered to-night in the big tin-mining centre of Oruro, 135 miles south of La Paz, while an unconfirmed report said units of the ranger regiment were preparing to head there to

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COMPANY NEWS

Another big increase for Quinton Hazell

A JUMP of £478,000 to not less than £2.1m. in pre-tax profits for the current year is expected by year are expected to reach Quinton Hazell (Holdings), which approximately £100,000, against makes motor components for the £88,845. replacement market.

Subject to no major upheaval, chairman Mr. Quinton Hazell looks forward with confidence to further substantial progress at home and abroad.

Trading in the automotive manufacturing divisions is once again running at some 25 per cent. up slippishly but from April onwards there was a steady improvement.

£139,000 loss by Lloyds Retailers

FOR THE six months to December 31, 1970, Lloyds Retailers has incurred a loss, as was thought possible. The net attributable loss is £139,000, against a par value profit of £123,000.

As reported on July 29, group profit before tax for the year ended March 31, 1971, was £1.21m. (£121m.). The automotive division contributed £1.32m.; geographically, UK accounted for 96 per cent. of total profit, Australia 2.3 per cent., EEC 2.1 per cent. and Belgium 0.4 per cent. The dividend is 13½ per cent (equivalent 11½ per cent).

Mr. Hazell is "delighted by the steps the Government has taken to get our economy moving" and makes a plea for it to take a firm initiative to encourage industry to invest in new machinery. He feels a long-term system must be introduced where cash flow from depreciations can be seen to be reinvested.

He would propose a simple amendment to the Finance Bill to ensure that the cash flow on the write-down of plant and machinery is only available for re-equipment within industry, and must be spent over a given time.

Further, he suggests that this write-down in the coming year should be 100 per cent against tax on condition that the total sum written off is re-invested in new plant over the following two years. This figure could be adjusted to 80 per cent, if this would be too hard an initial step.

Meeting, Kenilworth, September 15 at noon.

See Lex

£0.1m. forecast by Peek Winch

Providing Peek Winch and Teds, wholesale and retail grocers, maintains its current-year upward trend in sales throughout the last

Masson Scott—no less profit

Sales for the first quarter increased from £13,833 to £13,153, after depreciation of £24,222 (£22,437), etc. Tax takes £18,600 (nil), leaving a net profit of £34,550 (£13,833).

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New brand of tea from J. Lyons

BY PAMELA JUDGE

J. LYONS is launching a new brand of tea called Silver Label. It is at the cheaper end of the £125m. market with a recommended price of 8p a quarter. Some £1.2m. will be spent on advertising in the first year.

It is the first major brand to be introduced by any of the companies for about nine years, and it will be mainly competing against own brands, although there are a few other varieties in the cheaper sector which represents about 10 per cent of the total market.

The object of Lyons' move is to build up its share of the total tea trade. The company has Red Label in the expensive sector, Popular Tea at recommended prices of around 9p such as PG Tips, Typhoon and Quick Brew account for 60 per cent of all tea sales. There are also the dividend brands.

Silver Label is a quality tea, mainly black blend, and Lyons is able to offer it at the price by cutting out such marketing costs as trading, stamps, cards for collectors and dividends. At present, it is on sale in Scotland, and it will be introduced to the rest of the country in the autumn.

Equitable has announced a number of improvements to its rate on non-profit assurance policies. The new rates take effect from November.

The society also announces the introduction of an alternative guarantee of its S.E. Funding pensions scheme introduced earlier this year and designed for employers wishing to provide benefits for 15 or more employees.

Improved rates are also now available under the Selected Benefits plan announced at the same time as the S.E. Funding in February, 1971.

Continued from Page 1

Disillusion in Brussels

Both the Benelux countries and Germany had made proposals for a return to fixed parities within the EEC, with the dollar as the base in the past.

The parities were to be established at "a realistic level" when it came down to talking rates. It was clear that the alignment required by such a move would involve an effective valuation of the franc.

The French were unwilling to admit, particularly after a statement issued in Paris the day before that the parity of the franc would be maintained.

If agreement had been reached at this point, it is possible that the Germans would have been prepared to swallow their well-known objections to the two-tier market system for transactions with the outside world, which had been recommended by the European Commission and the Community Monetary Committee.

On condition, that is, that the situation margins in the market for commercial transactions were wide enough to merit the creation of a "controlled area".

The French, however, clearly had a much more restrictive view of the double-tier market than other member-countries even as they have shown by their vision to-day, they were prepared to allow the franc to fluctuate freely for capital transactions.

Valery Giscard d'Estaing, French Finance Minister, stated at the council meeting that the Six should not take any precipitate action and that any other moves should be carefully considered on the basis of exchange markets behaved themselves on Monday.

It was noted with some interest that Professor Karl iller, the German Economics Minister, was one of the participants who appeared least put out by the negative result of the meeting.

He made no bones about his satisfaction that Germany had been formally authorised to the D-Mark, while this had been tolerated before.

The present view in Brussels, however, is that this is a purely technical matter which can be solved by such special devices as border taxes, which are already in operation following the D-Mark and guilder float.

TEACH EVERY CHILD TO SWIM*

Parents should do their utmost to ensure that every child, as early as possible, has a chance to learn to swim, says Mr. Eldon Griffiths, Minister with special responsibility for sport.

Mr. Griffiths, Joint-Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department of the Environment, said when opening the European Diving Cup Competition at Crystal Palace: "Every year, in the 19 countries represented here, literally thousands of people, including many children, drown because they can't swim. This is waste as well as tragedy—unnecessary waste and folly."

He did not want to exclude the possibility altogether, but it had not yet been discussed with Herr Willy Brandt, the West German Chancellor, he said. In any event, Prof. Schiller said there had been no real discussion of the proposal, and that Germany, in any case, was not very keen on it.

Little or nothing was heard at the Six's meeting of President Pompidou's proposal for a summit meeting on monetary problems of the Six and the four candidates for membership.

Prof. Schiller said there had been no real discussion of the proposal, and that Germany, in any case, was not very keen on it.

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Another matter which has not been discussed at all is what effect the decision by the Six to go their own ways in the monetary field will have on agricultural trade between them and on their common agricultural policy, which is based on common prices equal to the official gold parity of the U.S. dollar.

The present view in Brussels, however, is that this is a purely technical matter which can be solved by such special devices as border taxes, which are already in operation following the D-Mark and guilder float.

OUTH WALES NTHRACITE OR ANTARCTIC

Special consignment of 100 tons of anthracite from South Africa is being shipped to Britain in the Antarctic.

It will be a year's supply of for 80 scientists, engineers and technicians carrying out the Antarctic survey and who, according to a Coal Board spokesman, the anthracite a constant fuel for use in such circumstances because it does not deteriorate and "you can always melt it out of the snow."

Mr. Griffiths, Joint-Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department of the Environment, said when opening the European Diving Cup Competition at Crystal Palace: "Every year, in the 19 countries represented here, literally thousands of people, including many children, drown because they can't swim. This is waste as well as tragedy—unnecessary waste and folly."

He did not want to exclude the possibility altogether, but it had not yet been discussed with Herr Willy Brandt, the West German Chancellor, he said. In any event, Prof. Schiller said there had been no real discussion of the proposal, and that Germany, in any case, was not very keen on it.

Little or nothing was heard at the Six's meeting of President Pompidou's proposal for a summit meeting on monetary problems of the Six and the four candidates for membership.

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Another matter which has not been discussed at all is what effect the decision by the Six to go their own ways in the monetary field will have on agricultural trade between them and on their common agricultural policy, which is based on common prices equal to the official gold parity of the U.S. dollar.

The present view in Brussels, however, is that this is a purely technical matter which can be solved by such special devices as border taxes, which are already in operation following the D-Mark and guilder float.

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F.T.—ACTUARIES SHARE INDICES

These indices are the joint compilation of The Financial Times, The Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries in Edinburgh

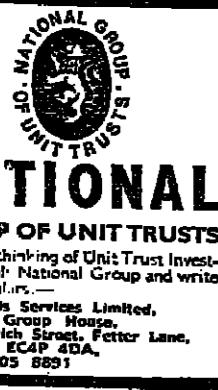
EQUITY GROUPS GROUPS & SUB-SECTIONS

Figures in parentheses after sectional names show number of stocks.

	Friday, August 20, 1971		Thurs., Aug. 19		Wed., Aug. 18		Tuesday, Aug. 17		Monday, Aug. 16		Sunday, Aug. 15		Year (approx.)		Highs and Lows Index		
	Index No.	Date's Change	With 40% Cor- poration Tax	Div.	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	1971	Since compilation	High	Low	
				Yield %											High	Low	
				Rate Ratio											High	Low	
CAPITAL GOODS GROUP (184)	154.44	-0.5	6.10	16.38	5.85	153.74	153.71	153.83	156.09	118.47	158.62	104.06	151.80	80.88			
Aircraft and Components (3)	110.81	+2.2	7.39	12.55	5.61	108.42	108.11	109.59	113.88	95.26	116.32	66.40	120.19	66.40			
Building Materials (29)	165.39	+0.1	5.03	19.90	3.43	155.39	155.20	155.35	155.41	98.49	154.36	65.40	155.35	65.40			
Contracting and Construction (18)	231.57	-	5.90	16.94	2.61	231.61	231.51	234.70	191.06	236.26	152.62	135.36	84.39				
Electr. (ex. Electr. Rad. & TV) (13)	97.85	+1.7	5.05	19.77	2.96	273.71	271.80	270.50	274.70	199.12	201.12	117.45	201.12	84.71			
Engineering (80)	125.43	+0.2	6.68	14.94	4.38	145.18	143.31	143.51	144.94	115.12	149.36	102.56	150.85	82.88			
Machine Tools (15)	66.73	+0.5	7.34	13.62	6.18	65.43	65.77	65.82	66.92	58.50	65.86	45.88	136.70	45.88			
Miscellaneous (25)	126.59	-0.3	8.09	12.36	4.65	127.01	127.84	128.50	129.32	114.59	133.65	84.19	144.27	84.01			
CONSUMER GOODS (DURABLE) GROUP (56)	168.42	+0.1	5.25	19.06	3.09	168.24	168.46	170.49	172.06	172.82	117.52	197.87	79.85				
Electronics, Radio and TV (14)	178.73	-	5.63	17.75	2.44	179.70	179.03	178.35	180.13	144.42	180.45	128.51	199.85	71.10			
Household Goods (15)	184.77	-	6.34	15.75	3.58	184.61	184.63	185.48	186.71	122.88	186.82	122.88	186.82	71.10			
Motors and Distributors (27)	114.03	+0.2	4.45	22.47	3.11	133.80	114.28	114.16	116.50	120.53	78.91	170.59	75.72				
CONSUMER GOODS (NON-DURABLE) GROUP (175)	160.68	+0.7	5.60	17.87	3.76	159.60	159.58	160.58	161.25	116.38	164.68	118.17	164.68	82.71			
Breweries (21)	184.62	+0.5	5.41	18.50	3.44	185.70	184.32	185.19	185.03	119.47	185.86	118.17	185.86	81.16			
Wines and Spirits (7)	170.05	-2.1	6.13	16.30	4.13	186.55	186.03	187.60	189.0	148.85	194.41	195.00	188.78				
Entertainment and Catering (15)	199.01	+0.1	7.19	13.91	3.90	198.85	198.96	201.60	203.49	168.52	212.87	145.88	212.87	82.88			
Food Manufacturing (34)	141.26	-0.5	5.72	17.48	3.85	140.60	141.36	142.98	144.01	104.71	144.01	97.74	171.54	95.88			
Food Retailing (17)	140.39	+0.2	5.58	18.58	3.60	140.04	140.35	141.06	142.50	97.56	141.81	92.83	142.50	82.71			
Newspapers and Publishing (15)	141.44	-0.2	6.07	16.47	5.03	141.73	141.69	141.12	141.87	106.59	142.39	101.65	184.86	81.74			
Packaging and Paper (16)	116.81	+0.9	6.62	15.11	4.44	115.75	115.35	115.49	115.75	101.52	115.75	101.52	115.75	82.74			
Stores (30)	153.62	+0.7	4.44	22.55	3.03	152.68	152.18	152.84	152.94	100.55	160.64	104.48	160.64	72.74			
Textiles (21)	175.32	+1.4	5.69	17.58	5.21	170.86	168.71	170.36	171.88	131.82	177.27	151.75	188.90	72.74			
Tobacco (3)	235.99	-0.6	9.10	10.98	5.68	232.49	232.53	233.86	236.04	198.17	254.47	170.92	305.08	94.34			
Toys and Games (6)	45.43	+0.9	0.88	11.87	3.29	45.05	49.80	49.33	50.34	53.89	69.03	45.05	135.72	45.43			
OTHER GROUPS																	
Chemicals (19)	128.89	+1.0	5.31	18.85	3.47	188.03	186.00	187.98	188.66	137.76	193.39	138.18	201.92	82.29			
Office Equipment (10)	194.19	-0.4	3.60	27.77	1.54	195.01	195.38	203.80	204.08	130.61	205.01	102.51	205.01	82.29			
Shipping (10)	313.66	-0.8	7.51	13.31	6.23	314.26	316.23	315.59	316.87	236.53	325.75	269.76	325.75	90.80			
Miscellaneous (unclassified) (44)	181.43	+0.5	5.92	15.90	3.80	180.44	179.64	180.35	180.77	128.90	180.44	109.52	180.77	82.29			
INDUSTRIAL GROUP (498 SHARES)	166.66	+0.6	5.62	17.80	3.64	165.75	165.55	166.52	167.55	-	170.95	160.15	170.95	120.61			
Oil (2)						157.08	-1.0	6.01	16.65	3.72	160.57	153.50	160.79	174.66			
500 SHARE INDEX	181.16	+0.5	5.68	17.61	3.65	160.60	179.83	181.33	185.39	186.03	187.27	182.46	193.73	84.81			
FINANCIAL GROUP (121)	172.81	+0.7	-	-	-	2.76	171.67	171.56	172.49	109.93	171.54	111.72	171.44	84.81			
Banks (6)	187.88	+1.7	7.54	15.63	2.70	184.81	183.79	182.89	183.83	101.74	186.94	101.65	189.94	89.85			
Discount Houses (6)	177.84	+1.4	-	-	-	4.34	175.32	175.22	174.26	174.07	119.13	177.84	101.59	177.84	89.85		
Hire Purchase (6)	268.44	+2.8	4.64	21.54	2.84	262.05	260.00	260.02	260.02	196.65	264.49	188.57	269.44	89.02			
Insurance (Life) (9)	150.94	-0.4	-	-	-	3.87	151.47	151.81	152.71	153.91	115.82	152.71	104.01	153.91	89.02		
Insurance (Composite) (9)	132.66	+0.8	-	-	-	3.23	131.81	132.20	132.88	131.85	104.56	130.85	80.60	132.88	89.02		
Insurance (Brokers) (11)	166.03	-0.2	5.34	18.75	2.62	166.36	166.31	166.85	172.86	102.19	167.05	101.29	172.86	89.02			
Investment Trusts (20)	194.85	-0.3	2.92	34.22	2.72	195.07											

F.T. SHARE INFORMATION SERVICE

— 1 —



MAN OF THE WEEK

Big man in a big job

BY PAUL LEWIS

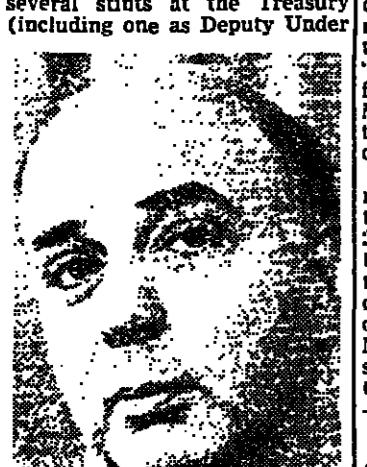
NO ONE could miss Paul Volcker easily in a crowd. Nixon's international monetary trouble shooter stands all of six feet seven inches high in his sober black socks, weighs 220 lbs and tops off this impressive frame with a pair of steely eyes, a slack jaw and a near bald crown to his head. Yet while he is distinctive enough as a man, the latest dollar crisis has shown that the U.S. Treasury Under Secretary for Monetary Affairs must now be rated quite an enigma when it comes to policy making.

Paul Volcker has held his present job since the Republicans first came to power some two and a half years ago. That he got the job at all is noteworthy since he is widely believed to be a Democrat. But the fact that he has kept his post despite the dollar's vicissitudes and a change at the top of the Treasury underlines both his professional competence and his growing personal authority in Washington. As his lightning European tour showed this week, he remains the key man in the crisis so far as foreign dollar holders are concerned.

Proven ability

The usual explanation of Volcker's appointment is that President Nixon's first Treasury Secretary, David Kennedy, was uninterested in foreign affairs and simply wanted a cool man of proven ability to keep the dollar's international woes out of his office.

Volcker fitted the bill perfectly. Born in New Jersey in 1927, he graduated with high honours from Princeton and studied further at Harvard and the LSE in London. He had done several stints at the Treasury (including one as Deputy Under



Secretary for Monetary Affairs with Douglas Dillon) and wound up as a Vice President of Chase Manhattan Bank, thus satisfying the Republicans' penchant for practitioners over theorists.

All this still counted in his favour when John Connally took over the Treasury earlier this year—for as a Texan lawyer and political professional he too had little time for the metaphysics of the international monetary game. But an additional factor of importance was that Volcker had done his job superbly, accomplishing every mission with which he had been entrusted over the previous two years.

In some ways Volcker's activities over the past two and a half years resembled those of the British Treasury knights in the run-up to devaluation. But with one big difference. To get his way he, too, had to win the personal confidence of the charmed circles of international monetary masters—the Economics and Overseas of this world—using the same subtle mixture of flattery, threats and sweet reason and appealing to everyone's hope that somehow things would be better tomorrow.

The vital distinction, of course, is that when in the end all the British promises came to nothing, the Government accepted the inevitable and devalued with as good a grace as it could muster.

The American approach has been very different. The import surcharge has gone on and the rest of the world has been told bluntly that the choice is between revolting or facing the policy of protectionism.

Key role

Where the Under-Secretary stands personally in all this is the central point in the enigma. Up to now he has always seemed by birth, education and temperament a partisan of international co-operation and the natural ally in the Administration of a civil service still deeply committed to free trade but fearful of the isolationist tendencies welling up inside the Republican party. Yet in Washington the word is that Volcker himself played a key role in planning and selling the President's "get tough" with foreigners' approach. And if an educated East Coaster like Paul Volcker can suffer a blinding conversion on the road to Europe, as it were, there can be no doubt in the strength of feeling among the Middle Americans who dominate the Cabinet.

THE LEX COLUMN

Hard facts behind the uncertainty

The last week has seen hours lower. To the extent that this £1.62m, and show why a fund of telephone time spent has not been recognised as necessary to 100 branches. Against this division, speculating on the outcome of would call for some major shifts with March bank overdrafts reported background, there can be few for one, U.K. manufacturers' the world currency situation, in investment ratings.

We might suppose, then, that shareholders' funds, and big p/e of around 181 at 49p. expansion plans for the current

elusive sense of frustration. It may be more useful to concentrate on the known data: these are that the U.S. has attacked inflation and tried to protect its balance of payments situation and deflate. The significance of the wage/prize freeze is that it is a breakthrough and that some sort of control will probably remain after the 90 days.

As far as inflation is concerned, the presumption would be that the pre-election boom game has been restored. Why should that mean anything other than that the Dow will make a further attempt at the 1900 level?

As for inflation, here is a working hypothesis. The U.K. and the U.S. are attempting to control inflation. Both countries have historically high and perhaps rising unemployment rates. Their inflation levels are therefore past the peak and heading more or less sharply

upwards. It is now possible that significantly lower long interest rates will come to be regarded as consistent with present (or lower) share price levels. On the argument that both the U.S. and the U.K. are undergoing an important shift towards thrift, we might bear in mind the possibility that the traditional relationship between interest rates and the economic cycle will be broken (or that the cycle will not be a traditional one). Finally, in looking at equity prices, we might expect a reshuffle between the inflation beneficiaries and sufferers.

Quinton Hazell

Quinton Hazell's accounts revise the 1971-72 forecast up from £1.85m. pre-tax at the time of last April's rights issue to at least £2.1m. against last year's

upshot is a rise in profits of a fifth to £541,000 pre-tax on a

sales rise in the region of 12 per cent. However, this is just as well for the shares have outperformed the stores sector this year by some 20 points, rising

from a low of 75p to 153p. At the net attributable profits level there is help from a sub-forecourts and the original equipment specialists, another acquisition (furniture) losses.

Finally the distribution of depots, currently accounting for 7p to 10p a share, or 8.5p fully

taxed. That leaves a p/e of 13 about 40 per cent of group out

against a third a year ago, (15 fully taxed) facing a

See also Page 24

John Peters

The upturn in furnishing demand felt by John Peters during the latter part of 1968-70 ran into last year, and is partly reflected by a more than trebled increase—£97,000

in the addition deferred profit reserve. Thus with the clothing division performing equally well

the upshot is a rise in profits of a fifth to £541,000 pre-tax on a

sales rise in the region of 12 per cent. However, this is just as well for the shares have outperformed the stores sector this year by some 20 points, rising

from a low of 75p to 153p. At the net attributable profits level there is help from a sub-forecourts and the original equipment specialists, another acquisition (furniture) losses.

Finally the distribution of depots, currently accounting for 7p to 10p a share, or 8.5p fully

taxed. That leaves a p/e of 13 about 40 per cent of group out

against a third a year ago, (15 fully taxed) facing a

See also Page 16

L. Hammond

It has been clear for some time that 1970-71 would not be

L. Hammond's year. Last March, the forecast was that profits would be "not less than" in

1969-70; for the calendar year

1970 insurance brokers' profits

were up 18 per cent, on average

while earnings rose 22 per cent.

This week saw the resignation of a group managing director appointed last March; and yes-

terday brought the results, with

See also Page 24

pre-tax profits down from £217,000 to £714,000, earnings from 7.1p to 6p a share, and the shares 18p lower at 100p, after 90p.

There are two areas of positive decline. First, there is a drop in investment income from £350,000 to £283,000 which has come as no surprise to the cognoscenti. Sheppards and Chase's last note on the company pointed out its relatively high proportion of year-end creditors to brokerage. With

Lloyds and the composites pushing the brokers for faster settlement last year, and lower short term money market rates to boot, Hammond looked a natural for an investment income squeeze. The other area of decline is in underwriting, and in neither area does Hammond hold out much hope of recovery in the current year. Thus the forecast of an additional £50,000 pre-tax from sub-leasing part of the head office is a relief, rather than an encouragement, and

Hammond's vulnerability to a bid is more important than its prospects to a p/e of 13.

See also Page 16

Capital Choice

£67m

LEEDS & HOLBECK

BUILDING SOCIETY

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Weather

U.K. TO-DAY

Most districts will be dry with some spells after some fog patches at first.

The N. and W. of Scotland and N. Ireland will be rather cloudy with occasional drizzle. S.E. parts of Britain will start cloudy with occasional rain in places.

Temperatures generally will be near or rather above normal. London: S.E. and E. Eng.; E. Anglia; E. Midlands.

Cloudy and misty with rain in places at first; sunny intervals later. Wind N. light or moderate. Max. 20C (68F).

Cent. S. and W. Eng.; W. Midlands; Channel Isles; S. Wales; Glasgow.

Rather cloudy in places at first but mostly dry and sunny. Wind N.W. to N. light or moderate. Max. 20C (68F).

Edinburgh; Cent. Highlands; Dundee.

Fog patches at first, then mostly sunny. Wind S. to S.W. light. Max. 20C (68F).

Catthays; Argyll; N. Ireland.

Rather cloudy with occasional drizzle, but some bright intervals. Hill and coastal fog patches. Wind S. Light or moderate. Max. 18C (64F).

N. Wales; N.W. Cent. N. and N.E. Eng.; Lake District; Isle of Man; Borders; E. and S.W. Scotland; Glasgow.

Some fog patches at first, but dry with sunny periods later. Wind light variable. Max. 20C (68F).

Edinburgh; Cent. Highlands; Dundee.

Fog patches at first, then mostly sunny. Wind S. to S.W. light. Max. 20C (68F).

Catthays; Argyll; N. Ireland.

Rather cloudy with occasional drizzle, but some bright intervals. Hill and coastal fog patches. Wind S. Light or moderate. Max. 18C (64F).

Outlook: Mostly dry and warm in S. and E. A little rain at times in N. and W. but some bright intervals and near normal.

BUSINESS CENTRES

	V-day	Mid-day	V-night
Amsterdam	F 22	24	25
Bahrain	S 22	25	26
Bern	S 22	25	26
Berlin	S 22	25	26
Bermondsey	S 22	25	26
Berwick	S 22	25	26
Birmingham	S 22	25	26
Brussels	S 22	25	26
Budapest	S 22	25	26
Cairo	S 22	25	26
Calcutta	S 22	25	26
Canberra	S 22	25	26
Caracas	S 22	25	26
Copenhagen	S 22	25	26
Dublin	S 22	25	26
Edinburgh	S 22	25	26
Geneva	S 22	25	26
Glasgow	S 22	25	26
Helsinki	S 22	25	26
Hong Kong	S 22	25	26
Istanbul	S 22	25	26
Lisbon	S 22	25	26
London	C 14	24	25
Luxembourg	S 22	25	26
Madrid	S 22	25	26
Malta	S 22	25	26
Marrakech	S 22	25	26
Mexico City	S 22	25	26
Milan	S 22	25	26
Moscow	S 22	25	26
Montevideo	S 22	25	26
Nairobi	S 22	25	26
Nicosia	S 22	25	26
Paris	S 22	25	26
Perth	S 22	25	26
Porto	S 22	25	26
Prague	S 22	25	26
Rome	S 22	25	26
Salzburg	S 22	25	26
St. Moritz	S 22	25	26
Taungoo	S 22	25	26
Tokyo	S 22	25	26
Tunis	S 22	25	26
Turku	S 22	25	26
Turin	S 22	25	26
Venice	S 22	25	26
Vienna	S 22	25	26
Warsaw	S 22	25	26
Zurich	S 22	25	26

HOLIDAY RESORTS

	V-day	Mid-day	V-night
Alacron	S 22	25	26
Alexandria	S 22	25	26
Almeria	S 22	25	26
Alvor	S 22	25	26
Barcelona	S 22	25	26
Blackpool	S 22	25	26
Bordicourt	S 22	25	26